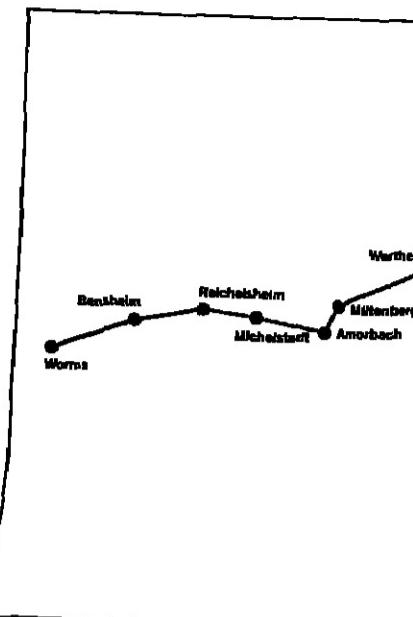


Routes to tour in Germany

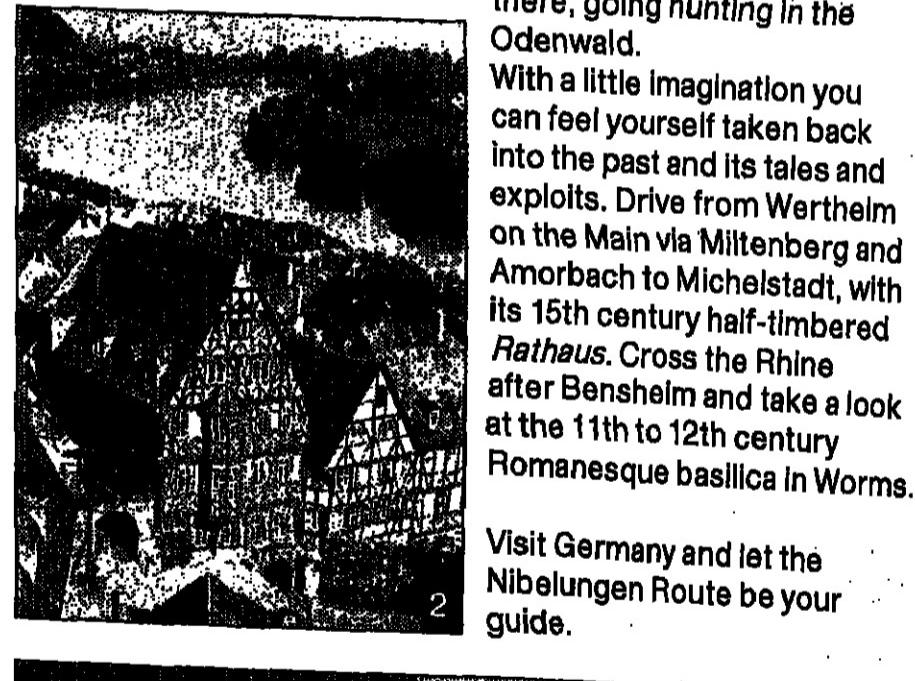
The Nibelungen Route



German roads will get you there – to the Odenwald woods, for instance, where events in the Nibelungen saga, the mediaeval German heroic epic, are said to have taken place. Sagas may have little basis in reality, but these woods about 30 miles south of Frankfurt could well have witnessed gaiety and tragedy in days gone by. In Worms, on the left bank of the Rhine, people lived 5,000 years ago. From the 5th century AD the kings of Burgundy held court there, going hunting in the Odenwald.

With a little imagination you can feel yourself taken back into the past and its tales and exploits. Drive from Wertheim on the Main via Miltenberg and Amorbach to Michelstadt, with its 15th century half-timbered Rathaus. Cross the Rhine after Bensheim and take a look at the 11th to 12th century Romanesque basilica in Worms.

Visit Germany and let the Nibelungen Route be your guide.



- 1 The Hagen Monument in Worms
- 2 Miltenberg
- 3 Odenwald
- 4 Michelstadt
- 5 Wertheim

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Beethovenstrasse 69, D-6000 Frankfurt/M.



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The German Tribune

Hamburg, 23 August 1987
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Limited options open to the West in the Gulf

Stüddicutsche Zeitung

Maybe the Americans were unwise virtually to side with Iraq in the Gulf War, especially after the Kuwaiti attempt to blackmail them before the half-hearted US decision.

The fast-moving Kuwaitis first requested a tanker escort from the Soviet Union. Prompt Soviet acquiescence eventually made the doubters and hesitators in Washington change their minds.

The US Navy is now in the front line of the fighting – and not the Arab Gulf states that rank highest on the hit list of Khomeini's henchmen.

The US naval presence is a tacit challenge to Teheran. The ball is now in the Iranian court; the next move is theirs.

Yet the US move does not lack a longer-term logic, especially as the real problem has long assumed familiar historic dimensions.

The years 1789, 1917, 1933 and 1979 say it all, years that stand for the greatest domestic upheavals in modern history, the French and Russian revolutions, the Nazi take-over in Germany and the overthrow of the Shah in Iran.

In all four cases the domestic revolution was inseparably interlinked with the countries' imperial ambitions and with earlier conflicts with their neighbours.

By 1792 revolutionary France was at war with Austria, resuming the centuries-old clash between the Bourbons and the Habsburgs that seemed to have been ended at Utrecht in 1713.

In the immediate aftermath of the Russian revolution the Soviet Union was initially preoccupied mainly with its self.

But the defeat of Nazi Germany led to the Cold War, waged under a Red Flag but in keeping with the longstanding Russian aim of hegemony in Europe.

The 1933 Nazi take-over in Germany resumed in 1939 what historian Fritz Fischer called the bid for world power Wilhelminian Germany had to abandon in 1918.

The 1979 clerical revolution in Iran matched this pattern, albeit at a regional level. The dogfight with Iraq dates back to the Shah, as does Teheran's desire to gain the upper hand in the Gulf.

The Shah liked fine words just as much as the mullahs. Such as the claim that Iran would soon become the world's fifth-strongest military power.

America, he said, was a lame giant. The libertine West, he forecast a year before he himself was ousted, would soon face the collapse of its democracy.

Iran, of course, is neither France nor Russia nor the German Reich.

Its rhetoric compares with its military resources like an American aircraft carrier does with the armed motor patrol boats that are intended to present a threatening posture in the Gulf.

Even so, neither the Americans nor the Europeans can afford to look disinterestedly at a far-away war.

Just over 60 per cent of all proven oil reserves are in the Gulf region. Aquarter are in Saudi Arabia, where the Ayatollah's soldiers tried to set up a second front in Mecca.

Besides, the war with Iraq has not stopped the Khomeini regime from expanding westward and setting up a kind of bridgehead in the Mediterranean in the form of the Hezbollah in Lebanon.

What ought the West to do? What can it do? Of the two, it is easier to say what it can't do. Robespierre's revolution was not brought to a halt until 1815, after 23 years of bloodshed. It took the worst war of all time to beat the Nazis.

Could Iran be invaded and occupied? No. Could the Americans do a deal with the "moderates," the deal they have been dreaming of for nearly eight years? The West might just as well have tried in 1944 to help Count Stauffenberg to come to power in Nazi Germany.

The "moderates" must make the grade themselves. Only then can the West do business with them.

The West can't keep itself to itself either, of course, even though some Europeans, led by Bonn, might think so. Regardless of trade, no-one can have an interest in Iran winning. There are no natural limits to the expansionary drive of revolutionary regimes and self-proclaimed world benefactors.

This historic fact underpins the logic of the US commitment and, at a fitting distance, the British and French commitment in the Gulf. A "US" role in the form of a naval escort need not necessarily be the main consideration. A joint minesweeping force would, for instance, protect innocent passage but not take sides, not even indirectly.

Besides, a precedent was set in October 1984 when the USA, Britain, France and Italy joined up in a minesweeper operation.

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(Cartoon: Behrendt/ Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

Sober reappraisal of role of nuclear weapons needed

In his brilliant 1964 nightmare comedy Dr Strangelove, Or How I Learned to Love the Bomb, Stanley Kubrick outlined a scenario ending in the nuclear harakiri of mankind.

The politicians look on helplessly as a mad general and a pilot whose powers of imagination fail to extend beyond the shoot-out in Western movies take command.

The technical perfection of the security apparatus is transformed into a technically perfect suicide machine.

Kubrick's film amused and shocked the Americans a mere two years after the world had followed with bated breath the course of the Cuba crisis, in which the superpowers seemed to be bound for head-on confrontation.

Robert Kennedy recalled in his memoirs that one of the US chiefs of staff had advocated the use of nuclear weapons during the Cuba crisis in October 1962.

But President Kennedy refused to order even a conventional attack on the Soviet missile launching pads in Cuba even after a U-2 spy plane was shot down over the island.

"I have no qualms about the first step

but I do have misgivings about escalation by both sides to the fourth and fifth steps. There won't be a sixth step because there will be no-one left to take it."

These are the words Robert Kennedy recalled his brother, the President, as having said.

The Cuba crisis became a turning point in world affairs. Only a few months later, in June 1963, the superpowers agreed to install a "hot line" scrambler phone between Moscow and Washington.

In July 1963 an initial test ban treaty was agreed. It marked the transition from cold war to detente, to use standard formulas.

Fresh crises have since shown that Kennedy's reasoning that no-one must take the first step because there is no way of knowing whether the fourth or fifth can then be prevented has emerged as the maxim of the nuclear age.

It has failed to give the world a guarantee of peace. Experts have worked out that there have been about 40 wars since 1945, more than 20 of them having been waged since the Cuba crisis.

Appalling photos from Asia, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East remind us daily that a "post-war period" can only be said to have prevailed in Europe.

A strict dividing line has been drawn through Europe where the immediate spheres of interest of the two superpowers directly clash.

Most of the world's nuclear warheads are stockpiled in Europe too. Substantial though any gains an aggressor might make in Europe could be, there is a no less substantial risk of the price that

WORLD AFFAIRS

No innocents among the major trading nations

This article was written for *Händelsblatt* by Lutz Stavenhagen, Minister of State at the Chancellor's Office.

The United States has threatened to impose countervailing duties on European pasta exports.

The European Community would have to respond by taking retaliatory measures against American products.

The dispute is yet another test of whether the USA and the European Community can shrug off the pressure of particularistic interests and negotiate some kind of compromise.

European spaghetti exports valued at \$25m and accounting for a 5 per cent share of the US market should not be the cause of such trade policy escalation.

In international trade there is a widening gap between the generally accepted and repeatedly emphasised principles of free trade, competition and the international division of labour and the threat, and sometimes implementation, of protectionist measures.

None of the world's major trading nations can claim to be innocent. Europeans feel that the USA is exerting pressure.

Buy-American procurement campaigns by the US government accompanied by deliberate measures against European products, ranging from pasta to machine tools, have got trading partners worried.

Criticism has also been levelled against the European Community's common agricultural policy. European practices in the telecommunications sector and the Airbus programme.

The trade policy initiatives of the US Congress are a particular cause for concern. The House of Representatives already passed the highly protectionist draft version of a new trade law in April this year.

This bill envisages substantially stocking up the arsenal of American retaliatory measures.

Among other things it plans to make it possible to compulsorily reduce bilateral trade surpluses if negotiations with trading partners fail to bring about the desired results.

The Senate recently adopted its own bill, which, contrary to previous expectations, also has highly protectionist features.

It gives the President the right to take countermeasures, for example, if barriers to trade cannot be removed via bilateral or multilateral negotiations. Both bills have yet to be aligned by a mediation committee.

We should do all within our power to ensure that the traditionally liberal character of American trade policy is upheld.

There can be no denying that economic policy decisions have become increasingly difficult.

Considerable exchange rate fluctuations, trade imbalances and unemployment have heightened the mood of uncertainty and prompted demands for more government.

Governments for their part show a growing inclination to adopt short-term protectionist solutions to existing problems rather than the longer-term and often more painful process of restructuring.

Almost all economic policy decision-

makers agree that the speedy relief provided by protectionism cannot overcome the fundamental structural problems, but will only tend to exacerbate them by postponing their solution.

Uncertainty and weakness induce trading partners to concentrate on the "sins" of others and ignore the errors of their own ways.

Efforts should be made to avoid a situation in which bilateral trade talks are dominated by mutual reproach.

Overriding common goals and efforts to find a solution should not be pushed into the background.

A lack of willingness to learn from others and seek compromise produces an atmosphere of discord with adverse effects on the general economic as well as political climate.

The lack of clear multilateral rules and regulations in various fields of trade fosters a gradual decline of the standards of trade policy conduct.

Loopholes in the GATT regulations enable broad interpretations of their content as well as means of circumvention.

These legal grey areas are bound to lead to conflict — not only in the trade policy field.

Consequently, governments are finding it increasingly difficult to ignore the demands of powerful lobbies.

The latter take advantage of legal loopholes to make compromises at the expense of others.

Adjustment problems are internationally passed on, as many a "voluntary" restraint agreement has shown. How can this be prevented?

We should pursue the objectives of the new round of GATT talks which began just under a year ago and give markets a better chance.

We need improved regulations for traditional problem areas such as agriculture.

We need new regulations for new areas such as the services trade, for the protection of intellectual property and for the prevention of conditions for foreign investments likely to have a distortionary effect on trade.

Furthermore, GATT needs to be strengthened as an institution so that it can settle disputes more efficiently.

These objectives are ambitious and can only be achieved via the joint effort of all partners.

The agricultural sector is a particular cause of concern.

We all seriously underestimated the technological progress, the industriousness and the imaginativeness of the farmers and painted too rosy a picture of sales possibilities in this field.

Attempts should be made to attract new investments and new know-how. There is no room for provincial go-it-alones.

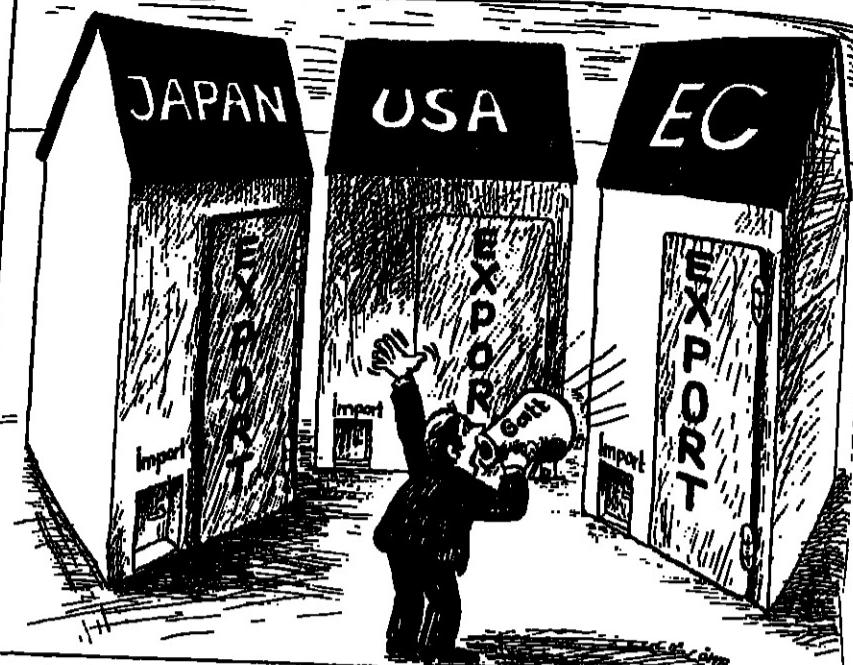
In the Federal Republic of Germany we are aware of the fact that the international appeal and growth prospects of a given location depend to a large degree

Continued from page 1

weeping run from Suez to Aden. The mines were not said to have been laid by anyone specific.

Moves of this kind can hardly be ruled out by the Bonn constitution, especially not the despatch of naval units to the Mediterranean as a token of solidarity with Bonn's allies.

The Iranians' missionary fervour has



Is anybody listening?

Problems which have evolved over many years and decades cannot be remedied at a stroke.

Furthermore, the scaling down of surplus production should not leave the farming sector in a state of desolation.

We must bear in mind the ecological aspects, especially in a highly developed and densely populated industrialised nation such as the Federal Republic of Germany.

Trade disputes, especially between friends and in many ways interdependent partners such as the Americans and Europeans, seem anachronistic.

Relatively insignificant reasons lead to an uncontrolled escalation and adversely affect other fields.

As trade wars have no winners but only losers we should be able to find a way to settle the current problems between the USA and the European Community.

Both sides must realise that resort to protectionism is an unnatural move.

The same social and economic values and goals serve as a model on both sides of the Atlantic.

This is particularly the case with regard to the role of the marketplace and competition.

Catchwords such as privatisation and deregulation, which can be heard in the USA, Britain, France and the Federal Republic of Germany, underline this fact.

The marketplace is given priority in each case, governments keeping in the background and setting greater store by initiative and achievement.

With confidence in our abilities we should be able to ease trade relations between the European Community and the USA.

Both sides, for example, managed to find a constructive solution to the conflict which flared up after Spain and Portugal joined the Community.

The Community recently dropped the idea of introducing a levy on fats, which would have hit American exports hard.

This sensible decision should serve as an example in the dispute over pasta exports and in all protectionist proposals which underestimate the efficiency and competitive strength of national economies.

Such times included the visits to Berlin by President Reagan, President Mitterrand and Queen Elizabeth.

A close season seems to have been declared in the run-up to the visit to West Germany early next month by East Berlin leader Erich Honecker.

East Berlin seems extremely sensitive about foreign response. That is an interesting discovery to make on the eve of Honecker's visit.

Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has warned against using Herr Honecker's visit as a means of gaining domestic stature.

There is a certain irony in this warning. Herr Genscher himself is hard to beat at getting the most domestic political mileage out of events of this kind.

He does his best to let his own party benefit from the spin-off from his Foreign Office work, such as the dispute over whether 14 Chileans facing death sentences should be granted political asylum in Germany.

Free Democrat Genscher is a dab

GERMANY

Exchange of prisoners as a prelude to Honecker visit

Three weeks before Erich Honecker was due to visit the Federal Republic — and the day before the 26th anniversary of the Berlin Wall — the two German states staged a spectacular exchange of five prisoners.

Among them was Christa-Karin Schumann, a doctor for whose release Bonn has been working for years. In return Manfred Rötsch, convicted of industrial espionage in Munich last year, was handed over to the East.

West Germany handed over three prisoners and East Germany two. The exchange took place at the border post near Herleshausen, in Hesse, as part of the arrangement.

Fran Schumann, 52, was sentenced in East Germany on 26 June 1980 to 15 years for espionage.

She is said to have been the companion of Rear-Admiral Winfried Baumann, who tried in vain to escape to the West after having been exposed as a spy and was executed.

Rötsch, 63, was sentenced to eight and a half years in July 1986 for spying for the KGB.

As research director at Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm (MBB), the aerospace group, he supplied the Russians with classified information about the Tornado multi-role combat aircraft and various satellite projects.

He had worked for the KGB for 30 years and was arrested only a few days before he was due to retire. He came to the Federal Republic from East Germany in 1954.

The parties in the Bonn Bundestag have called on the occasion of the Berlin Wall's 26th anniversary for the East German border emplacements to be demolished and the ending of the shoot-to-kill policy.

East Germany is reported also to have released Manfred Witzel, who was given a life sentence in 1983 for spying for the Federal Republic.

The Federal Republic released Wolfgang Klautzsch and Klaus Schmidt, who were serving two and three years respectively, also having been convicted of espionage.

Bonn government officials say the exchange was negotiated over a period of months by Ludwig Rehlinger, state secretary at the Intr-German Affairs Ministry in Bonn, and East Berlin lawyer Wolfgang Vogel.

Frau Schumann's brother, Professor ADN, the East German news agency

Eight years in East Berlin cells... Christa-Karin Schumann. (Photo: dpa)

Frau Schumann had been allowed to leave East Germany and had arrived in the Federal Republic.

ADN, the East German news agency



Storm over Tornado secrets... Manfred Rötsch. (Photo: dpa)

The Berlin Wall

Nothing at all can be done to beautify the Berlin Wall or what it stands for. Twenty-six years after it was built it remains an appalling monument to the division of Germany.

It is also a reality. It would be as meaningless to pretend to ignore East Germany because of the Wall as it was to try and impose a cordon sanitaire round it by means of the Hallstein Doctrine.

There is little point in arguing how East Germany might have developed if the Wall had not been built.

It is equally speculative to ponder over the degree of stability and flexibility in other ways East Germany has gained by building the Wall.

The fact is that East Germany today can no longer, in many respects, be compared with East Germany as it was in 1961.

Relations between the two German states have been normalised in this lengthy period — to the extent that there can be said to have been a return to normal in view of the Wall.

The two states are no longer as chary of contacts between them as they once were. The visit East Berlin leader Erich Honecker is to pay the Federal Republic early next month will be a highlight in attempts by both sides to make more bearable the difficult situation that resulted from a war Germany criminally waged and lost.

When Herr Honecker arrives he will not bring with him the news that the Wall is to be demolished, but there are signs that it may one day have outlived itself in its present form.

Younger East Germans and not just pensioners, are now allowed to visit the Federal Republic, and nearly all of them return home.

More humane forms of demarcation must be possible if this trend continues. Now East Germany has abolished the death penalty it ought to be able to forgo the order to shoot at would-be refugees to the West too.

That is a point to be raised with Herr Honecker while he is here.

East Germany has interests of its own in maintaining cordial relations with Bonn, while Bonn is prepared to make concessions that seemed inconceivable only a few years ago.

This is borne out by the fact that Herr Honecker will be welcomed to Bonn with little short of the full honours accorded to a visiting head of state. On this basis still more ought to be possible that benefits ordinary people.

Ralf Lehmann
(Westdeutsche Allgemeine, Essen,
13 August 1987)

Border guards' shoot-to-kill order modified

hand at converting into extra FDP votes

the constant irritation of Bavarian Premier and CSU leader Franz Josef Strauss, who would dearly like to see a change of direction in foreign policy and still feels he himself would make the better Foreign Minister.

Genscher is unhappy that Strauss is at present clashing mainly with the CDU and not with him, which is cutting down his vote-winning leeway.

Nearly all West German politicians would agree with Herr Genscher in hoping Herr Honecker's visit goes ahead without incident — if at all possible.

On this point, arguably the exception that proves the rule, Herr Strauss and Herr Genscher see eye to eye.

Herr Genscher says it would be better not to overburden East Berlin's leader with too many demands. His visit must not be overruled to gain political stature either.

He does his best to let his own party benefit from the spin-off from his Foreign Office work, such as the dispute over whether 14 Chileans facing death sentences should be granted political asylum in Germany.

They are keen to give the lie to the Opposition parties in Bonn, who argue that the opposite is the case.

Three years ago, on a past occasion when the East German leader was due to visit the Federal Republic, Chancellor Kohl somewhat embarrassedly suggested that tree deaths might be a major item on their agenda. They now seem likely to have more to discuss.

Herr Genscher's advice on how to handle the Honecker visit includes the warn-

ing not to exaggerate in either direction. It would be no less wrong to accuse Honecker of having blood on his hands than to kiss him demonstratively on the cheek.

Maybe headway can be made, in a circuitous way, on the order to shoot at refugees from East Germany by making it clear how relieved Bonn is to see a drop in the number of border incidents of this kind.

The intervals during which shooting dies down in connection with certain events show that East Berlin is well aware how ill-suited bloodshed is in the detente context.

This is surely a juncture at which to object to an order that makes no sense when the East German border is hermetically sealed off to the West in any case.

Hermann Eich
(General-Anzeiger, Bonn, 13 August 1987)

The German Tribune

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Josef Joffe
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 11 August 1987)

■ DISARMAMENT

Germany's Pershing 1A: the neglected debate

SONNTAGSBLATT

Making peace with fewer and fewer weapons is one of the formulas with which Bonn Chancellor Helmut Kohl likes to lace his speeches on disarmament.

As experience (including experience under SPD-led governments) has shown, that is easier said than done.

Even so, it has so far been virtually inconceivable that Bonn might block an initial bona fide disarmament agreement.

The present dispute over the Bundeswehr's Pershing 1A missiles is a stern reminder that the opportunity of holding a serious public debate on these nuclear weapons has been neglected for decades.

Any such debate would have had to deal with the so-called two-key concept by which the United States holds the key to the missiles' nuclear warheads while the Bundeswehr controls the carrier vehicles (missiles, aircraft, artillery shells).

This concept runs counter to the German renunciation of both the manufacture and the right of disposal over nuclear weapons.

It is also hard to reconcile with the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, which rules out German access to nuclear weapons.

This is the background against which repeated assurances by German politicians that the Federal Republic is not a nuclear "have" must be seen.

The "haves" are the superpowers

The disarmament talks that hit the headlines most often are the Geneva arms limitation talks held by superpowers America and Russia since March 1985.

The aim of the talks was laid down by Secretary of State Shultz and Foreign Minister Gromyko at a preliminary meeting in January 1985.

The two parties, they agreed, were to try and "draft effective agreements aimed at preventing an arms race in outer space, at ending the arms race on earth and at limiting and reducing the number of nuclear weapons and enhancing strategic stability."

The negotiations cover three sets of issues. They are:

- the limitation and reduction of medium-range missiles (INF, or intermediate nuclear forces);

- the limitation and "reduction" of strategic arms (Start, or Strategic Arms Limitation Talks);

- the prevention of an arms race in outer space. This complex includes SDI, President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative, and the Asat talks on anti-satellite weapons.

The position at present is that both the Americans and the Russians have tabled treaty drafts on all three complexes but that their positions have only grown any closer on medium-range missiles.

The Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachov, eliminated a major obstacle last month in saying he was prepared to dispense with Soviet SS-20 missiles stationed in Asia.

America and Russia and the so-called third states Britain, France and China, which all have independent nuclear deterrents.

The controversial 72 Pershing 1As are thus not third-state systems. It is equally untrue to say they belong to Nato and cannot, for that reason, be included on the agenda of the superpowers' Geneva arms limitation talks.

Nato does not have sovereign rights of its own and thus cannot figure as a third state with nuclear warheads of its own.

What is clear is that the Pershings' nuclear warheads belong to the United States, and that, as the Soviets see it, is what matters.

The issue is further befogged for interested members of the general public by the fact that the military value of the Pershing 1A is strictly limited.

The missile is not accurately enough targetable for the role for which it is said to be envisaged.

In other words, it cannot be relied on to knock out military targets; it can only be used as a weapon against soft targets, as military terminology — perverse at times — calls indiscriminate victims of nuclear weapons.

Besides, the manufacturer will soon no longer be able to supply spare parts, so the missile will cease to be operational by the early 1990s.

The reasons why the Bonn government is so insistent on retaining the missile are thus strictly political. Sad to say, they too are hard to explain, being largely based on irrational assumptions.

They include for one the requirement of a progressive scale of nuclear escalation, as presupposed by the flexible re-

sponse strategy, for which a continuous escalation is indispensable.

It must extend from theatre nuclear weapons via intermediate-range systems to strategic intercontinental ballistic missiles.

The insistence on this graduation mainly reflects the fear felt by America's allies, who fancy that the United States would only be prepared to use its strategic weapons to defend Nato in Europe if Washington were associated with every stage of nuclear escalation.

If this were not the case, the argument runs, there would be a risk of America decoupling.

A further factor is the omnipresent sense of inferiority felt by nuclear have-nots.

This sense of inferiority, as was shown by the dispute in the late 1950s over whether the Bundeswehr should be equipped with nuclear weapons, is particularly pronounced in the Federal Republic.

A variety of somewhat securilous ideas has since been mooted, up to and including recent proposals for a Franco-German neutron bomb unit.

All that has actually materialised is the two-key arrangement, based on a strictly observed treaty between Washington and Bonn.

A majority of Bonn government politicians are clearly not prepared to forgo this minimum. Their assumption seems to be that they might then still be able to attend sessions of nuclear planning groups but would no longer be entitled to a say in their proceedings.

The military insignificance of the Pershing 1A must not be allowed to give rise to any misunderstanding as to the role of the superpowers at the Geneva conference table.

Nor, for that matter, must the political interests that motivate Bonn in its desire to retain the missile for the time being allowed to do so.

They include for one the requirement of a progressive scale of nuclear escalation, as presupposed by the flexible re-

Continued on page 8

Geneva talks approach final hurdles

That brought within the realms of possibility a worldwide zero solution for missiles with a range of between 500 and 5,000km. It would be the first genuine nuclear disarmament treaty.

The Americans called for a worldwide ban on this category of weapon on pragmatic grounds, arguing that a total ban was easier to verify.

The US delegation in Geneva honoured the Soviet move by taking a closer look at Moscow's demands. The United States said it was prepared to forgo the option of handing INF carrier systems over to third states and to dispose with the conversion of existing systems.

In other words, Pershing 2s would not be converted into shorter-range guided missiles as a replacement for the Bundeswehr's ageing Pershing 1As.

Similarly, there would no longer be any question of transferring cruise missiles from land-based launching pads to ships.

The toughest problem at present is what to do with the Bundeswehr's six dozen Pershing 1As. The Russians insist on the warheads, which are kept under US lock and key, must be scrapped.

The Americans refuse to include the Pershing 1As on the agenda, arguing that they are third-state weapon systems and thus beyond the scope of the superpowers' talks.

A possible solution would be for the Americans to call a halt to supplies of spare parts, which would mean the missiles would be museum pieces and have to be phased out by the early 1990s.

Their warheads would also quietly be withdrawn in the final phase of INF reduction, which is expected to take between three and five years.

Differences have lately arisen on relatively minor issues such as the rate at which missiles are to be phased out.

The Americans suggested the Russians, who have more missiles and warheads, might make the first move. After a while the United States would follow suit.

The Soviet delegation dismissed this idea. Moscow insists that both sides must start their missile phase-out simultaneously. It seems that there is no full agreement also on what bases are to be opened to inspection by the other side.

US officials no longer expect the talks to fail, no matter what disagreements are still outstanding. Observers expect agreement to be reached this autumn on the last disputed issues.

There would then be no further obstacle to President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachov signing the INF Treaty before the year's end.

The art of magic is to conjure the dreadful so that it doesn't become reality.

Wolfgang Schmid

(Nürnberg Nachrichten, 5 August 1987)

Günther Nonnenmacher

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 August 1987)

Nuclear weapons

Continued from page 1

would have to be paid proving unacceptably high.

There can hardly be any doubt that nuclear weapons have been and continue to be the reason why the state of non-peace between East and West has not been transformed into

with every stage of nuclear escalation.

If this were not the case, the argument runs, there would be a risk of America decoupling.

Polities has changed in other parts of the world too since the invention of the Bomb. In contrast to the past, conflicts in which a superpower has been involved have remained local in scope.

That is scant consolation for the victims on the spot, both military and civilian, but it does show that vertical escalation, the nucleus of the atomic threat, will to some extent stop short of "horizontal escalation," i.e. extending the hostilities geographically.

In Vietnam the world has seen what appalling consequences a "merely" conventional war can have.

All that has actually materialised is the two-key arrangement, based on a strictly observed treaty between Washington and Bonn.

A majority of Bonn government politicians are clearly not prepared to forgo this minimum. Their assumption seems to be that they might then still be able to attend sessions of nuclear planning groups but would no longer be entitled to a say in their proceedings.

The military insignificance of the Pershing 1A must not be allowed to give rise to any misunderstanding as to the role of the superpowers at the Geneva conference table.

They are psychological weapons, aimed first and foremost at the head of Andre Glucksmann.

They are, at the same time, political weapons in that they force the superpowers to talk with each other in times of crisis in areas of unrest.

Henry Kissinger has written that Washington was in daily contact with Moscow during the Yom Kippur War in 1973. The Americans evidently notified the Soviet leaders before launching their 15 April 1986 raid on Libya too.

Above all, nuclear weapons force the superpowers to engage in a constant dialogue. Every ice age in relations between Washington and Moscow has so far led to a thaw and fresh disarmament or arms control negotiations.

Deterrence, Glucksmann also says, is the way people who are unable to understand each other understand each other.

This, then, is the war-preventing, rational side of the Bomb. The daemonic side of nuclear weapons is that they can no longer be banned from the world, not even by agreements between the superpowers.

That is why Kubrick's horror vision will constantly recur, ranging from sceptical hope, as in War Games, to hopeless pessimism, as in The Day After.

US officials no longer expect the talks to fail, no matter what disagreements are still outstanding. Observers expect agreement to be reached this autumn on the last disputed issues.

There would then be no further obstacle to President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachov signing the INF Treaty before the year's end.

The art of magic is to conjure the dreadful so that it doesn't become reality.

Wolfgang Schmid

(Nürnberg Nachrichten, 5 August 1987)

Günther Nonnenmacher

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 August 1987)

PERSPECTIVE

Americans wrestle with the problem of trying to understand Germany

Frankfurter Allgemeine

to Americans as their own they have conveniently taken a rest for almost four decades in the hope that the United States would defend them regardless of their own efforts.

In the age of strategic nuclear missiles, continues, it is an illusion to believe that American towns and cities would be put in jeopardy in a war to defend Western Europe.

American newspapers are not alone in their superficial assessment of the "unpredictable Germans". Other "opinion leaders" such as politicians and professors are also finding it difficult to objectively define their relationship to Germany and the role of the Federal Republic as an alliance partner to the USA.

With the help of American taxpayers' money the USA is currently safeguarding Europe's and Japan's energy supply in the Persian Gulf as well as its own.

Demands that Washington pull out of Nato are still dismissed by government officials as a fringe opinion.

Calls for a "fairer distribution of responsibilities" within the alliance are no longer only heard in Congress. Would they prefer to move into Gorbachov's "common house" rather than strengthen ties with the West?

Should Americans support rapprochement between the two Germanies?

Representatives of the US Administration referred to President Reagan's "offensive" speech in Berlin, in which he called upon the Soviet leader to "tear down the wall" — a demand which Reagan reiterated in Washington after his visit.

The policy of the alliance towards Germany should be linked with demands to the East for the realisation of human rights as well as for strategic restraint.

Economically and politically, on this there is no doubt in America, the Federal Republic of Germany is firmly embedded in the western community.

Nevertheless, there are fears that the Germans might succumb to the allure of a "culturally defined" "Central Europe".

The response of other nations to the German desire for reunification has become more and more irreconcilable, CDU Bundestag member Peter Kittelmann complained, as the memory of the Second World War fades.

Harry Gilmore, the new American envoy in Berlin, described the evolution of German democracy since 1945 as a "major success" before wryly asking what would happen if Gorbachov were to offer a deal resulting in a neutral Germany?

Americans don't like the idea that the key to German reunification lies in Moscow.

They are worried about what they

Continued from page 4

missiles, German objections are likely to go as unheeded by the United States as the Soviet Union may (or may not) be prepared to disregard the ongoing deployment of the Pershing 1As.

If the superpowers are not prepared to come to terms, they may find Bonn's attitude a convenient excuse for washing their hands in innocence at having failed to reach almost tangible agreement.

Whatever happens, the Bonn government will be unable to avert suspicion that its call for peace to be made with fewer and fewer weapons is mere rhetorical window-dressing.

Karl-Heinz Horenberg

(Deutsche Allgemeine Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 16 August 1987)

would have to sacrifice to enable closer German-German ties.

They made it clear that they would not sacrifice their security and their views on freedom.

American conference expressed their concern that the growing interest of West German youth in the GDR could be accompanied by a growing disassociation from the values of the alliance.

Conservative Americans such as Christopher Layne do not want to leave demands for a "Europeanisation of Europe" up to the peace movement.

In the struggle of the world powers for the heart of Europe, they emphasise, America should present itself as the champion of German interests".

The creation of European armed forces independent of the United States, which Layne and others would like to see, depends on the ability of West Europeans to jointly formulate their political objectives.

As long as, on the one hand, patriotism which firmly supports the values of democracy is not established among Germans and, on the other hand, the idea of German reunification makes neighbouring countries, e.g. France, feel uneasy, however, Nato will tend to be an instrument for the containment of the Germans rather than the Russians" (Layne).

He described the "ritual assurance" of mutual respect between alliance partners as an "empty shell".

Peter Kittelmann urged Nato critics not to destroy increased trust by "describing what is theoretically conceivable as if it were a real possibility".

German conference delegates reminded Americans of the development and expansion of the European Community into an economic and political entity.

This is more realistic, they claimed, yet also more boring than developing conspiratorial theories about "Central Europe".

■ TRADE

Gulf crisis poses no immediate threat to the world's oil supplies

The industrialised states need not fear a third oil crisis, at least short term. The Strait of Hormuz in the Gulf are only of limited importance for oil transhipment.

Only between five and seven per cent of German oil and 20 per cent of world oil are brought through the Strait.

In the first half of this year 11 per cent of West Germany's oil came from the Gulf states.

Over the last few years, North Sea oil has grown to 41 per cent of German requirements. This means any shortfall from the Gulf could be easily covered.

In the long-term the situation is not so rosy. Two-thirds of the world's oil reserves of 95 billion tons are in Opec territories.

West Germany cannot permanently avoid importing oil from the area.

Besides worldwide demand for oil is increasing, particularly in the developing countries. At present 45 billion barrels are needed daily.

British Petroleum boss Hellmuth Buddenberg believes that over the next few years demand will increase 10 per cent.

Internationally oil markets are tense and the American oil price is reacting nervously because of the Gulf crisis. But on European trading centres there is little sign of panic.

In New York the price is hovering around 23 dollars a barrel. In Rotterdam it is sinking only 20 dollars.

The difference, according to the ex-

West Germany exported 234 billion dollars worth of goods last year, says the International Monetary Fund. This puts it ahead of the United States (217 billion dollars) and Japan (211 billion dollars).

The popular daily *Bild Zeitung* proclaimed jubilantly, "We are world champions." The paper was right: international comparisons are made like that.

Foreign trade figures for 1986 put exports at DM526bn and imports at DM414bn. When comparisons are made it all depends on what dollar exchange rate is used.

At the beginning of 1986 an American dollar was worth DM2.50, but at the end of the year it was being quoted at about DM1.95. What average market price is representative then?

If it is assumed that 526 billion marks and 243 billion dollars are the same sum, then the Monetary Fund must have used for its statistical data an exchange rate of DM2.16.

It is obvious that DM526bn corresponds with a higher exchange rate to a lower dollar amount.

But in the final analysis it is not important whether German exporters hold first or second place in the world list. The only fact that matters is that for many years West Germany has been among the top exporters, which shows that its exports are competitive despite high production costs.

Inflation is almost zero and the unit labour cost has almost remained unchanged. These two points have also worked in favour of German exports. Despite prophecies of doom high quality must have been the reason for the

STUTTGARTER
ZEITUNG

persis, is based on the American reaction to the Iranian threat.

There is plenty of oil in storage so the talk should be of glut rather than shortage. The Opec states seem to have given up all attempts at production discipline. The International Energy Agency in Paris says 18.2 million barrels were produced per day during July, 1.6 million more than agreed.

The Iranians and Iraqis have exceeded their quotas by more than 60 per cent. Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait also seem to have disregarded their quotas.

There is little chance of change in the foreseeable future because the Gulf states need money.

The Iraq-Iran war has cost more than just the combatant nations over the past seven years. Experts calculate the war has already cost Iraq DM360bn.

But the other Arab states have been financially involved in the war as well. They have poured out directly DM30bn in aid to Iraq.

The states of the Middle East are also suffering dramatically from their depressed incomes from oil. A one-dollar drop in the oil price signifies for the Opec countries a decline in oil income of at least eight billion dollars.

According to the Federal Statistics

Inge Nowak
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 8 August 1987)

Exchange rates play games with super-league export figures

source of anti-free world trade endeavours, particularly in the USA.

This indicates that the old mercantilist ideas, that every effort should be made to achieve the highest possible export surplus, no longer holds good.

Some industries are very export-oriented. More than 50 per cent of workers in the engineering and automobile industries are involved in export contracts.

Import prices have dropped sharply on average by ten per cent so that the export surplus in the first six months of this year reached a record high of DM55bn. It does look as if exports have not yet completely adjusted to reduced order books.

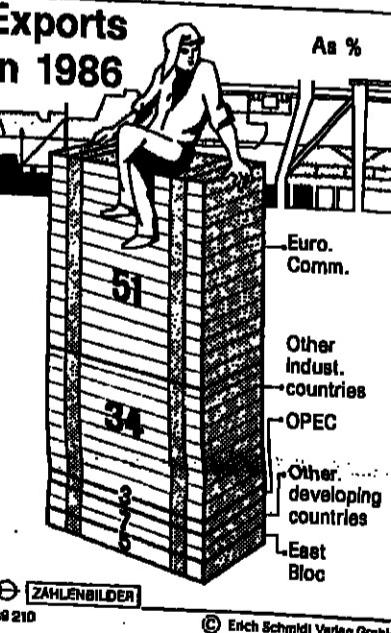
Certainly West German exporters have looked on the slight increase in the dollar exchange rate with relief, but in general it is difficult to say where the break-even point lies.

West Germany's strong position on world markets seems endangered since last year. It is indeed a serious question how our industry can come to terms with a strong deutschmark against a weak US dollar.

No-one will deny that exporters have in the main made an extraordinary large amount of money when the mark was cheap and the dollar at DM3.50 was almost twice as dear as it has been in the past few months.

This wide range means staying power and reduces sensitivity to the ups and downs of international trade.

There is considerable dependence on free world trade when every third mark is export-dependent. However, the high German export surplus of DM112bn last year is a constant



Office in Wiesbaden both sides in the war have held back from investing.

West German exports to Iraq dropped 36 per cent last year to DM1.4bn. West Germany only imported goods valued at DM227 million from Iraq, 38 per cent less than in 1985. Ninety per cent of imports involved oil.

In the first half of this year the picture has changed. Exports to Iraq dropped further to DM30bn, imports were DM282m, considerably more than in the whole of 1986.

The same sad picture holds true for Iran as well. Imports from Iran dropped last year by 38 per cent to DM1.1bn.

Exports declined by 32 per cent to DM3.9bn.

Between 1980 and 1985 their oil income dropped from 150 billion dollars to 132 billion dollars.

It is estimated that oil income for 1986 was 81 billion dollars, about as much as they earned before the oil crisis.

In addition the decline in the value of the dollar has made considerable inroads into the purchasing power of the oil-exporting countries.

The Gulf states' investment possibilities have melted away. These once-time free-spending states are now having to adjust their expenditures to income.

This means that imports and contracts have had to be cut. West German companies have felt this.

A spokesman for building contractors Ed. Züblin of Stuttgart said: "Business with Iraq was very important for us a few years ago." But those days are past. Züblin has been given no new contracts and work on a dam near Mosul in Iraq is almost completed.

The Strabag building contractors of Cologne have captured no new contracts after having completed a civil air port in Basrah and a motorway in the 1980s.

The outlook could change as soon as the warring parties lay down their arms.

Then Iraq and Iran would need to build up a modern industrial base. West Germany's position in the Gulf is not so bad. West Germany remains one of the major trading partners for both countries still.

The latest statement by Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher that Baghdad started the war, did not do economic relations any good.

Iraq has cancelled discussions that were to be held with Mannesmann AG for a contract that ran into billions.

For the first year the four men had sales of almost 9 million dollars. In the second sales were 39 million and in the third they sold 119 million worth of their products. All of them had become millionaires over-night.

Bechtolsheim comes from the town of Nonnenhorn, on Lake Constance.

This day, I had lunch with him at Roger's Deli: meat salad on rye bread and a small bottle of red currant juice.

Cost: 3 dollars 49.

In the first year the four men had sales of almost 9 million dollars. In the second sales were 39 million and in the third they sold 119 million worth of their products. All of them had become millionaires over-night.

Bechtolsheim quickly found a name for the firm, Sun Microsystems, derived from an abbreviation of a Stanford University Network (SUN) experimental project.

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Bonn Research Minister Heinz Riesenhuber has denied charges by the Berlin DIW economic research institute that Germany is dropping further and further behind Japan and the United States in scientific research.

Herr Riesenhuber says German industry compares well with its competitors in technology-intensive sectors.

German standards in robot, laser, biocatalyst and sensor research were little short of America's and, in some areas, ahead of Japan's.

The minister has reason for all the justification: he has to cut some direct and indirect subsidies.

Manpower subsidies for research-intensive firms are to be scrapped. This year they will total DM400m.

Special depreciation allowances for research investment are to be scrapped at the end of next year. Investment subsidies available since 1974 may also be axed.

Ministry officials admit that small and medium-sized companies will be the main losers. So Herr Riesenhuber needs to try and disarm critics by emphasising how well-placed Germany is.

Industrial sources estimate that subsidies totalling DM1bn a year are due to be axed. But what about German research? Is it really in such a fine state as the Ministry claims?

Herr Riesenhuber bases his claim on a report by the Institute of Systems Technology and Innovation Research (ISI).

Unfortunately, he forgot to mention that the ISI survey is based on 1982 figures, more recent data not having been available.

It also notes that German research concentrates less on advanced technologies than on medium-intensity research such as microelectronics and engineering, in which German firms really are well-placed.

Yet when the overall research expenditure of the major trading countries is compared, the Federal Republic is an also-ran, according to a spokesman for the Confederation of German Industry (BDI).

US investment in research and development will total DM277.7bn this year, as against DM265.9bn in 1985.

Japan is spending DM108.2bn, as against DM84.1bn last year but one, whereas the Federal Republic, with DM59.3bn (DM52.1bn), seems at first glance to come a poor third.

The comparison is distorted by exchange rate fluctuations, however.

US investment also includes defence research contracts totalling nearly DM100bn, and research spending comparisons are difficult to draw in other respects too.

■ TECHNOLOGY

Arguments loom in face of plan to cut subsidies

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

In 1985 the Americans spent only 13 per cent of their R & D budget on basic research, as against 20 per cent in the Federal Republic.

Another substantial difference is that German industry bankrolls roughly 60 per cent of its research expenditure itself, while US firms raise little more than half of the money they spend on R & D.

Even so, the growth rate of German research spending has declined, as the Research Ministry has partially admitted.

According to DIW figures the United States has increased R & D outlay by 31 per cent since 1980, as against a 25-per-cent increase in Germany and a 65-per-cent increase in Japan.

The Ministry may argue that the DIW survey is based on 1980, a year in which the German economy, and with it research spending, was marking time. But Ministry officials note with alarm the "particularly striking" efforts undertaken by Japan.

Another striking statistic compiled by the AIF industrial research association is that Japan has three times more research scientists than the Federal Republic (and the United States, five and a half times as many).

Manpower and spending figures may not be a clear yardstick of success. A handful of imaginative lancers can achieve more than an army of research scientists.

But the likelihood of achieving greater success by means of a higher research outlay is clearly substantial.

So the fact that per capita R & D spending, at DM970 in the Federal Republic, is roughly on a par with the US figure, DM1,140, and higher than Japan's DM890 does not in itself prove too much.

Despite being far from badly-placed, BDI spokesmen take a somewhat sceptical view of the outlook for German research.

They say it has weak spots in future-oriented sectors such as microelectronics, genetic engineering and new materials.

In the past 30 years German research scientists are said to have made not a single trailblazing discovery in molecular biology.

It looks very much as though the importance of research will continue to increase in the years ahead.

The competitive advantage and efficiency of advanced industrialised countries can only be maintained if they open up new markets with new products and problem solutions.

That is why the German electronics industry is so insistent in clamouring for strong government support.

Industrial research and development totalling DM21bn a year must, it says, continue until the turn of the century to be met largely by subsidies.

This argument is advanced in a survey entitled Microelectronics 2000 and published by industrial, university and research institute interests.

Semiconductor manufacturers are also demanding a helping hand with additional investment totalling DM14bn.

If no help is forthcoming, chip manufacturers say, the Federal Republic will forfeit by the end of the century any claim it might have to being an advanced industrialised country.

In other words, German industry is clamouring for billions in subsidies in order not to trail hopelessly behind its competitors.

Continued from page 7

the computer cursor over the screen on which messages neatly appeared.

Bill wanted to know the worth of new micro-processors. The "letter" is answered in a second.

He does not have a secretary. To his left there is a telephone answering machine which has been fed with the message: "Hi, this is Andy Bechtolsheim, you can leave a message..."

His "machine," or work station, known by his initials AVB, is the centre of everything. "My surname is too long for Americans and I don't get along with the von, so I've dropped it."

Every Sun employee has his own machine named in this fashion. Andy has contact with everyone and can originate circulars, question documents and so on through his "machine." This is his control centre from which he operates his kingdom in Mountain View and via which he

also keeps in contact with the rest of the world.

Beside his computer there is a small piece of equipment with telescopic antenna that looks like a short-wave receiver.

He presses two buttons and instantly the stock-market quotations for Sun shares and the shares of competitors appear. Andy murmured: "Ah, dropped two eights."

Eventually we went into the holy of holies, a darkened room. On the desk he had built a model of next year's computer in wood and plaster. He said that he believed it would be the winner of all time "because it was smaller, faster and more efficient than anything we have had before."

All the electronic component of a new model have been reduced to the size of two postcards. Then I had to leave. The "machine" was calling.

*Dieter Thierhach
(Die Welt, Bonn, 8 August 1987)*

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■ TECHNOLOGY

Liquid-phase epitaxy: a woman makes it all crystal clear

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

ment, pouring the droplet over a monocrystalline wafer between 1.5 and 4 square centimetres in size.

In the process a crystal layer between 1 and 150 thousandths of a millimetre thick is formed.

Frau Bauser and her Stuttgart colleagues have succeeded in finding out how crystals grow and how their growth can be controlled.

A crystal always tries to find a germ on which to start life — a step or unevenness on the given surface.

It doesn't grow upward from the step as might be imagined; it grows along the edge, which moves accordingly.

If the step was originally only a single molecular layer tall (and wafers this thin can be produced), then a crystal can be grown that is totally flat and also only a single molecular layer tall.

Ideal crystals of this kind can be grown to sizes of several square millimetres.

The finest crystals do not grow in crucibles. Frau Bauser and her colleagues use other techniques with which layers of crystals with different properties can be superimposed more easily.

As these layers grow at a rate of roughly one molecular layer per second, their quality depends to a crucial degree on how fast the solution is poured on to the wafer and drained off again.

The gases are then split up, the gallium and arsenic forming a crystalline compound on the wafer surface.

Why go to all this trouble? Frau Bauser's crystals are used in basic research by fellow-scientists at her Stuttgart research institute.

They try, for instance, to find out what changes a semiconductor's properties undergo if it is deliberately polluted.

IBM Europe may pride itself on not awarding the prize in connection with industrial research, but findings of this kind are indispensable for chip manufacturers.



Elisabeth Bauser busy growing molecular layers.

(Photo: MPG)

The thinner the semiconductor wafers can be bred and the more exactly their properties can be arranged, the faster computers using chips made of this material will work.

The jury has awarded the prize for work in a research sector not a million miles away from IBM's interests.

The independent jury includes Nobel laureates Leo Esaki and Ilya Prigogine. Its German members are Gisbert zu Putlitz, vice-chancellor of Heidelberg University, and Hans-Joachim Quessner, head of the Stuttgart Max Planck research institute where Frau Bauser works.

Rainer Klüting
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 1 August 1987)

Mathematicians meet under the snowdrops

operational shape when subjected to heat in outer space.

This new generation of metals might conceivably be used in aero engines too, said Professor Martin Clickman of the Polytechnic University in Troy, N.Y.

Professor Julian Szekely of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) feels applied mathematics is only at the outset of its possibilities of solving free marginal value problems.

If one day, it succeeds in calculating the growth of mineral crystals there will be a groundwork for devising new semiconductor alloys for use in computer technology.

He and his associates are working under high pressure to solve the problems associated with crystal calculations.

None of the scientists at the Irsee gathering was prepared to forecast what conclusions might be derived from the solution of another unsolved question.

The laws by which liquid movements are governed apply equally to ocean wave movements. Once they are known, wave movements can be forecast.

So can the spread of toxins after an accident — either man-made or a natural disaster. The prevention or containment of both would be invaluable.

High-powered computers and new mathematical formulas may well be able to solve these questions before long.

(Nürsberger Nachrichten, 5 August 1987)

■ MUSIC

There's nothing quite as grand as a Steinway

RHEINISCHER MERKUR

Artur Rubinstein once said there was nothing in the world like a Steinway piano. He also once said that he would never visit or perform again in Germany.

Well, he did come to Germany again. And the reason was Steinway. In 1966 he came to Hamburg to collect his old piano from Steinway & Sons where it was being repaired after being damaged three years earlier in Israel.

He recognised it from among a dozen others because of its tone and he greeted it with a kiss.

People still remember how Rubinstein tested every key, every one of the 88 notes in various shades of tone and tried out the instrument's whole dynamic range.

The Steinway staff were treated to a concert by the great pianist, who expressed his delight in the inimitable sound he produced from it.

The name Steinway comes from Germany, but the company's headquarters are now in New York. There is a factory in Hamburg and a sales centre in Berlin.

Although Steinway is no longer the largest piano manufacturer in the world, in volume terms, it is the most famous, exclusive and the best, say many, many musicians from Richard Wagner to Keith Jarrett.

Hamburg pianist Christoph Eschenbach described his Steinway as "a first-class work of art" with "matchless tone." Wilhelm Kempff regarded a Steinway piano as the "fulfillment" of a pianist's life.

The company's history began in 1797 in Wolfshagen im Harz. Heinrich Engelhard Steinweg was born there on 15 February of that year. He was the third son of a master charcoal-burner.

When Heinrich was 13 his mother died. His father married again but a year later she died, too.

Then Heinrich's father and his second eldest son were hit and killed by lightning. Heinrich saw it happen.

There was nothing in his youth to indicate that he would become world famous. After his military service he was apprenticed and eventually became a master carpenter.

He married in 1825, settled down and opened his own workshop in Seesen in the Harz. In 1836, partly in his workshop and partly in the kitchen, he built his first piano. He had already tried to build a zither, guitar and a small organ.

Heinrich Steinweg quickly recognised his own talent and saw the opportunities.

Three years later he was awarded first prize at the Brunswick Fair for a piano he had built.

The Steinweg family business advertised its pianos. Heinrich Steinweg announced in a weekly paper: "I guarantee my pianos for any period of time the purchaser cares to name. The price of my instruments is relatively inexpensive."

Nevertheless sales possibilities were poor. Customs after 1843 were restrictive. During the political disturbances of 1848 the situation got even more pre-

carious. Heinrich's second eldest son Karl got embroiled in the Revolution.

Eventually Karl emigrated to America and changed his name to Charles.

Charles was so enthusiastic about the opportunities in the New World that a year later Heinrich Steinweg decided to follow his son with the rest of the family.

Heinrich Steinweg with his wife, five sons and four daughters boarded the "Helene Stoman" bound for New York.

He sold his house and workshop for 2,460 thalers. Only his eldest son Theodor remained in Germany.

As was usual at the time the family "Americanised" the family name to Steinway, not Stoneway which would have been a direct translation of the German name. The family wanted to retain a little of their German origins and past.

The Steinways were soon successful in America. Heinrich and his sons at first worked in a number of piano factories in New York. When one of these factories was hit by a strike the Steinways made use of this opportunity to build their own pianos again.

In 1853 they founded their own company, Steinway & Sons. The internationally-famous company was born.

The family business rapidly rose to success. By 1864 the Steinways owned the largest piano factory in the world.

The firm won one international prize after another for its products. In 1855 they won first prize at the New York Industrial Exhibition for their pianofortes and in 1862 Steinway captured the first prize at the World Fair in London.

He did the same thing five years later in Paris, where one of the prize judges was Eduard Hanslick, admired and feared for his sharp-tongued criticisms.

A report of the time said that Steinway & Sons combined German industry with American vision.

The company used what could be called for the time "high tech" in building instruments. One international patent followed hard on the heels of another (altogether more than 100). Tire-

Continued from page 10

DM19,000 and DM27,000, a concert grand can cost anything from DM42,000 to DM100,000. Extra charges are made for special specifications such as gilded legs.

The driving force behind all these undertakings was William Steinway, the sixth child and fourth of Heinrich Steinweg's sons.

He was a deeply involved man whose interests extended far beyond his instrument building and his company.

He took part, for instance, in the planning of the New York subway, and set up a ferry connection to the Steinway factory on Long Island. He founded, with Gottlieb Daimler, a motor company.

For many years the Steinway company was involved not only with grand pianos and pianofortes but also with internal combustion engines for ships and automobiles.

But despite these diversions William and his brother Theodor devoted themselves whole-heartedly to the construction of pianos.

By 1872 Steinway & Sons had built 25,000 instruments. The 25,000th grand piano went to the Czar's court in St Petersburg, the 50,000th was delivered to the banker Rothschild in Paris.

The Prussian King also played a Steinway as did Richard Wagner who in 1875 expressed his gratitude for his



Reunion... Artur Rubinstein greets his old piano in Hamburg in 1986.
(Photo: du Vag)

opened in London in 1875 and a German subsidiary, Steinway & Sons, was established in Hamburg with its own production facilities.

Eldest son Theodor, who had remained in Germany, moved to America. The family asked him to join them after the death of the brothers Albert and Karl.

Nevertheless Theodor's name lived on in Germany. He had also set up his own firm to build pianos, Grotrian-Steinweg of Brunswick. The company still exists and enjoys a splendid reputation.

The history of the Steinway company is also an important chapter in cultural history, if only because all concert pianists at the end of the last century performed on Steinways.

In 1866 the Steinway Hall was opened in New York and remained the city's most famous concert hall until the Carnegie Hall was built.

Almost all the most famous artists of the second half of the 19th century played there, naturally on a Steinway piano.

At the end of the last century the successful company built a small village of homes for its workers which included a library and a school where 500 children were taught German and music free of charge.

For years on end the company's working language remained German.

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■ COMMUNICATION

Esperanto still setting tongues wagging 100 years after Unua Libro

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Esperanto, la lingvo internacia, ne estas mortinta; la internacia lingvo, Esperanto, ne estas.

It is alive and 100 years old. Which is an appropriate enough point to see if it is kicking as well.

The birth of the language was marked by the publication of *Unua Libro* (First Book) by the Jewish ophthalmologist Ludwig Lazarus Zamenhof, who called himself Dr Esperanto (The Hopeful One).

He grew up in Bialystok, Poland. His father was a language teacher. Early in life Zamenhof got used to the hubbub of languages in eastern Europe. He saw that the mistrust that existed between the various national groups arose from their inability to understand each other.

He did not devise his language, then, as a linguistic exercise, but from practical considerations mixed with brotherly idealism and an attempt for peace. He wanted to create a "language bridge," a means of furthering international understanding.

Then Esperanto experienced a new flowering among workers and not only in Germany. More than 5,000 attended the world congress in Nuremberg in 1923.

Hitler regarded these citizens of the world with their "interlanguage" as suspect. In 1936 Esperanto was banned.

Other dictators followed suit. Stalin

in Russia, Franco in Spain and Salazar in Portugal.

In 1945 it was vital for the language to have a new beginning, particularly in view of the dominance of English.

The first magazine in Esperanto was published in Nuremberg, but not much notice was taken of it. It did, however, attract some attention in Czarist Russia, where it was banned because of an article written by Tolstoy.

It seemed as if Esperanto would share the fate of "Volapük," a difficult-to-handle, comical idiom developed by a minister from Constance in 1880 which disappeared without trace at the turn of the century despite a promising beginning.

Steinway built a piano for him to now accompanies him on all his concert tours. For decades it has travelled for one continent to another.

Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli is two Steinways that go with him on his tours.

The company remained in the family for almost a hundred years, until 1922, when the New York company and factory in Hamburg were taken over by the American media giant CBS.

The number of family members became too many to enable it to pursue a uniform policy. One report said that the various family lines were unable to coordinate their interests so that the company could be commercially viable.

Two years ago the company returned to private ownership when four American businessmen acquired it.

Since 1853 Steinway has delivered at most half a million grand pianos and pianofortes to all parts of the world. The 500,000th instrument will shortly be completed. The company is not prepared to say whether it is being produced in New York or Hamburg.

Hamburg is represented by over 250 selected specialist dealers all over the world. New York supplies America and Canada.

This year the Hamburg company has listed 1,300 grand pianos and 300 pianos in its work book, the New York factory 2,200 grands and 800 pianos.

In musical circles the Hamburg-made instruments are regarded as marginally better than those produced in New York. No-one is prepared to be specific about this. But if it were not true would Artur Rubinstein have had to break his single instrument?

Gabriel Nay

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, Bonn, 2 August 1987)

of Esperanto in every country in the world. Travelling Esperantists claim that, like Rotarians, there is no place where they do not have friends.

But the political pressure of the Esperanto movement is limited. National pride demands a national language.

In the written documents of the European Community alone many millions of marks would be saved per year if Esperanto was used as the bridging language.

This is how Zamenhof hoped his idea would be understood.

He believed that the Lingvo Internacia would amplify, not replace, a national language.

A British linguistics professor once wrote that Esperanto united the power of English, the depth of German, the elegance of French and the melodious sound of Italian.

The language's considerable flexibility stimulates creative phraseology and gives pleasure.

The beginner does not have to devote effort to exceptions. The rules of Esperanto are simple and they apply absolutely.

The capacity to express ideas is embedded in the vocabulary which is drawn mainly from the romance languages.

No other language is tailored to be so concise as this language by words using suffixes and prefixes.

Conjugations permit more precise forms of expression than in other national languages.

A completely modern aspect of the language is that no living language is better suited for use in computers.

There is plenty of literature in Esperanto, original and translations. There are magazines and broadcasts.

There is an Esperanto Association



The Hopeful One... Ludwig Zamenhof.
(Photo: dpa)

and Congress, language courses and opportunities to practice speaking the language.

There are specialist Esperanto groups of railwaymen, philatelists, Catholics, teachers and the blind.

Esperantists have mainly themselves to blame that they are regarded as airy-fairy idealists.

They should open themselves up more to the world. They should emphasise the usefulness of speaking Esperanto and the pleasure it can give more strongly rather than the political ideas of peace and understanding between peoples, so often abused.

Although Esperanto is 100 years old it is still modern. It has survived all other "artificial" languages because it has a genius of its own and has developed in practice.

It has adjusted no worse to modern conditions than it did in Zamenhof's time.

The technical conditions for furthering the language are better now than ever before. Should not more be done about it?

Gerald Lingau
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 28 July 1987)



From master carpenter to piano maker... Heinrich Engelhard Steinweg.
(Photo: Steinway & Sons)

Until now both specialist disciplines have developed mostly alongside each other.

In combination experts believe positive impulses for overcoming problems would result.

The aim of the international congress on "Terminologie und Wissenschaft" that is scheduled to take place in Trier at the end of September is to bring order to this language tangle.

The prime question that will be examined at this event is: "Aided by computers how can optimum arrangement and structure be brought into the constantly increasing flood of knowledge?"

One example is obvious: annually between 150 and 200 billion book pages are translated into more than 5,000 languages.

About one per cent of this mass of text is processed by computer. Actually every second page could be translated more rationally by computer than by traditional methods.

Linguists recognise that not only professors should look into new methods of data elaboration technology, but doctors, lawyers, engineers and skilled workers.

Recently large companies have begun to make provision for the cost of information in their balance sheets.

Harald Watermann
(Die Welt, Bonn, 28 July 1987)

■ MEDICINE

Child cancer victims not given enough painkillers 'out of ignorance'

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Children in pain from advanced cancer are often not given enough painkillers, a conference on pain has been told.

A Canadian specialist, Ronald Metz, said this was because of the widespread but mistaken assumption that children feel pain less than adults.

He told delegates that doctors were far too slow to use pain-relieving opiates. They should not be so afraid. The risk of addiction later was far less than many doctors thought.

Raymund Pothmann, who works at a clinic in Wuppertal which is the only one in Germany specialising in chronic pain in children, outlined its work to the conference, the Fifth International Congress on Pain, in Hamburg.

About half of all young people up to the age of 14 know from personal experience what splitting headaches are like.

One per cent of children under seven suffer from migraine, and the percentage steadily increases with age. Experts say this is because of excessive stimuli both at school and outside.

Professor Michael Zenz, of Bochum, said an estimated 60 per cent of cancer

patients in the Federal Republic need to be prescribed morphine-based drugs to kill pain. But surveys show that few doctors are prepared to prescribe them.

Yet drugs effectively kill pain and in what combination can they be administered? The congress was attended by about 3,000 scientists from over 40 countries.

Other questions dealt with included how pain occurs, how it passes through the body, why cancer patients often don't feel pain until it is too late yet suffer from crippling toothache resulting from the smallest and most insignificant of cavities.

Are there any new drugs with which to treat widespread complaints such as migraine, backache and rheumatism? These and other questions were raised and discussed at length.

Many doctors, the Hamburg congress was told, know much too little about what can be done to treat migraine and other chronic complaints that cause pain.

"Pain," Manfred Zimmermann of Heidelberg said, "is not a subject dealt with at German universities."

Accompanying new methods of treatment were dealt with in detail and at length in papers and debates.

Acupuncture was agreed to be most effective in treating migraine when it was correctly used. Relaxation training, sport and massage can similarly be most effective.

An attempt must also be made to persuade patients to come to terms with their complaint and with the pain that accompanies it rather than to resort to one new and more powerful drug after another.

In the final analysis even the most powerful drug will end up being more or less ineffective.

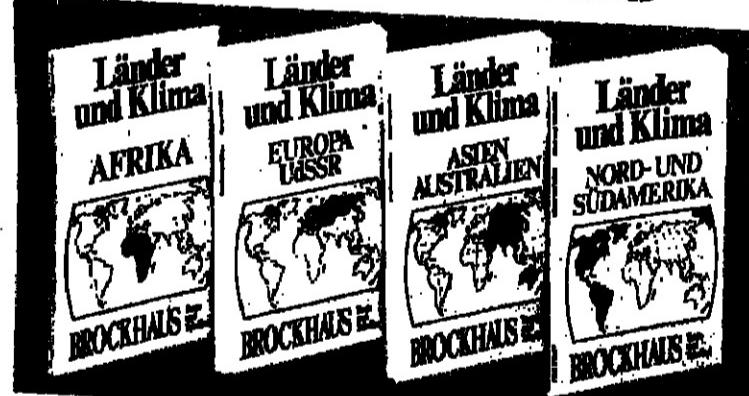
"Patients must learn to help themselves in other ways," said Eldon Tunks, a Canadian who works in a pain clinic alongside anaesthetists, psychiatrists and physiotherapists.

Patients at his clinic are not just given in-house treatment. The outpatient service also helps them after they leave hospital.

"Patients must be enabled to lead active life again," he said. They are told that the pain would continue if they would feel better.

Karsten Pöhl
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 8 August 1987)

Meteorological stations all over the world



supplied the data arranged in see-at-a-glance tables in these new reference works. They include details of air and water temperature, precipitation, humidity, sunshine, physical stress of climate, wind conditions and frequency of thunderstorms. These figures compiled over the years are invaluable both for planning journeys to distant countries and for scientific research.

Basic facts and figures for every country in the world form a preface to the tables. The emphasis is on the country's natural statistics, on climate, population, trade and transport.

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A woman in pain

Hamburg artist Jürgen Bordowicz has won the 8,000-mark prize for his portrait of a suffering woman. 80 artists entered the competition, of the subject of pain, promoted by German association for the study of pain.

(Photo: Kupke)

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Karsten Pöhl
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 8 August 1987)

Doctors can usually do little for backache, says specialist

Backache is seldom helped by doctors; 95 per cent of cases recover spontaneously within two or three weeks, Swedish orthopaedic surgeon Erik Spangfort says.

Professor Spangfort, of Huddinge University Hospital, was in Hamburg for the Fifth International Congress on Pain.

He told the German newsgency, dpa, in answer to a question, that acupuncture could ease back pain but not cure it.

Kay Brune of Erlangen University said there was no such thing as the "best way of treating arthritic pain and inflammation."

Asked how he felt about acupuncture, he said it could ease the pain but not cure the backache.

Professor Brune said tried and trusted non-steroid drugs were still the best way of treating arthritic pain and inflammation.

The latest experiments with drug such as Interferon and Cyclosporin that affect the body's immune system had not proved very promising on closer scrutiny.

In very serious cases morphine-based drugs could, he felt, be used.

A Frankfurt study group said about 1,400 medical practices needed to be set up in the Federal Republic to treat patients suffering from chronic pain.

Including special clinics there were at present only 95 to treat 450,000 patients suffering from pain caused by one complaint or another that failed to respond to conventional treatment.

The Frankfurt group, which concentrates mainly on pain research and continuing training for doctors, has branches in eight German cities.

They were activated by biochemical changes resulting from inflammation. Professor Schmidt said. Other agents

Continued on page 13

(Allgemeine Zeitung, Mainz, 5 August 1987)

■ THE ENVIRONMENT

Organic vegetable farming not better, says survey

German organic farmers have won a 8,000-mark prize for their portrait of a suffering woman.

The differences between vegetables grown traditionally and those grown organically cut both ways, says a report.

The authors say neither form of cultivation has a clear advantage. Wilhelm König and Jörg Leistner of the North Rhine-Westphalian Ecology, Rural Development and Forestry Planning Institute's Düsseldorf branch office, compared samples from the Cologne-Aachen area.

Organic farmers use neither artificial fertiliser nor chemical pesticides. Instead, they spread and spray natural substances, such as compost and liquid herbal manure.

Scientific opinion differs strongly on whether the organic farming is better. A Dutch survey found the organic system to be much better; an earlier German survey found no notable differences.

The Düsseldorf findings do not tally with either of these conclusions, as the details for carrots show.

Comparison over a three-year period showed organically grown carrots to be superior mainly in containing a higher dry mass count. In other words, they contained more vegetable substance and less water.

Conventionally grown carrots were found to contain a higher count of nitrates, undesirable because it may cause cancer, but a level still well below the safety margin prescribed for dietary foodstuffs.

Conventionally grown carrots came off better in comparison of sugar counts. They contained more sucrose, which meant they tasted better and kept for longer.

They also contained a clearly higher level of potassium and calcium. König and Leistner say the higher dry mass count of organic carrots offsets this shortcoming to some extent, but they feel unable to express a clear preference for one variety or the other.

Their findings tally with eight-year trials carried out at the Orchard and Vegetable Farming Research Establishment in Auweiler, Cologne.

Since 1978 nearly all conventional

Continued from page 12

inhibited activation. Painkillers based on morphine, which have so far been felt to work solely via the brain, can also block nerve-ends in a joint and bring rheumatic pain to a halt.

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Continued on page 13

(Allgemeine Zeitung, Mainz, 5 August 1987)

be kept at bay mechanically. The man-hours mount up.

But the difference in labour input declines over the years as farmers gain in experience. She also sees opportunities of rationalising compost-making.

Yet organic farmers earn a living despite longer hours and lower yields. They need to charge an extra 50 per cent to cover the cost of these extra factors.

Earnings 50 per cent above the conventional average are a distinct possibility. Even higher prices can be charged, although marketing arrangements are still somewhat haphazard at times.

Organic crops grown at Auweiler are highly rated by consumers. Samples of organic fruit and vegetables have invariably been rated tastier by consumers (who were not, of course, told the purpose of the tests).

These findings differed from tests involving professional tasters, whose tongues and palates were unable to sense any difference between organic and conventional samples.

Nutritional analysis showed the difference, in keeping with the Düsseldorf findings, to be unspectacular.

Alternative vegetables were found to contain markedly more vitamin C and fewer nitrates.

"Organic farming is feasible," says Ulrike Lindner after eight years of trials. But a farmer must be convinced he has made the right decision in making the change.

Organic farming may earn him more but it is harder and more exacting work that calls for commitment on the farmer's part.

Dieter Schwab
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 18 July 1987)



Weedkiller

Jürgen Kupke, a soil conservation specialist, who has developed a system of using cardboard rings to prevent weeds from throttling plants. The rings, laden with dung, are placed around plants. Underneath moisture is absorbed and microscopic organisms allowed to enrich the earth. It is claimed weeds don't grow. The cardboard disintegrates harmlessly in about three years.

(Photo: AP)

He has found that soil is damaged less by low-weight tractors crossing frequently than by juggernauts churning up the soil less often.

A heavier vehicle weight, it was long felt, could be offset by a larger tyre surface area. But the Bayreuth readings disprove this assumption.

Tyre pressure spreads through the soil in what Horn describes as onion fashion. The narrow tyres of a light-weight tractor produce a correspondingly small onion.

The jumbo tyres of a larger agricultural machine may generate the same pressure per square centimetre but the larger surface area makes the "pressure onion" expand.

As a result the strain is sent deeper into the ground and the soil is impacted even further. So the only way to reduce the pressure is to fit larger tyres to smaller items of machinery.

The growing threat of erosion is a further problem. Once the system of cracks and fissures in the soil has been destroyed, rainwater can no longer penetrate fast enough. It is drained off superficially and carries off topsoil with it.

Compacting of soil is very difficult to reverse. Attempts to plough deeper and ventilate it better have often failed, merely transferring the compaction to a lower stratum.

Healthy soil can withstand the pressure of tractor tyres and has sufficient capacity to recover, nature in this case consisting of a combination of the earthworm and ground frost.

Ice that freezes in the soil expands and can thus open up compacted earth. But even in fallow fields it can take years for the soil to regenerate.

So the aim must be, as far as possible, to prevent overexposure to strain in the first place.

Horn has experimented with vehicles, driving them over ground in which sensors that respond to pressure have been driven.

The reason for this could hardly be

predicted.

Bernhard Borgeest
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 6 August 1987)

■ HORIZONS

The aerial dilemma of a high-flying executive (or, never sign anything)

DIE WELT
WORLDWIDE NEWSPAPER FOR POLITICAL

Nick Peters is always in the air. As a marketing adviser in Frankfurt, he hasn't any other choice. He flies often six days a week and doesn't think twice about it.

Until now. His uncomplicated relationship with fresh air has run into complications.

It happened one day when he found himself clad in parachute harness at the top of a 12-metre tower at the Luftschule in the Bavarian town of Altenstadt. What was he doing there? That was the question he asked himself.

What he was about to do (or not to do) had been achieved by 80,000 before him. They had all, wait for it, JUMPED. Go on, you great big blubbering sook! JUMP.

Below, waiting for his hurtling form was the ground. There was also a nasty man called Mr Altenhöner who was yelling nasty things.

Peters' fix was caused by a foolhardy moment when he had signed on the dotted line to do a weekend seminar with an organisation called Gesellschaft für angewandte Management (GAM) or Society for Applied Management.

Participants do an outdoor training course which includes exercises similar to survival training. They spend two days and two nights, fording rivers, thrashing through impenetrable land, building temporary accommodation with a minimum of equipment and eating whatever nature offered, from frogs legs to dandelions.

Tests of man and mettle like the leap from the tower and a rope descent of a 25-metre vertical surface are included. The aim is not just for its own sake. It is to develop the capability of forging team spirit with the aim of improving their management capabilities.

Society chief Rudiger Olschowy says: "Most of the activities are with two-man teams where one member is totally reliant on the other." Ideally, two people from the same firm who work closely together in their jobs would take part.

"During training, they help each other in difficult situations and, through this, become close friends. Olschowy sees the training as a way of improving cooperation at work. He says it increases the capacity to handle stress.

Nick Peters found the ideas behind the course plausible. He found it less plausible from the top of the tower down at the gravelly ground and at the wiry figure of Mr Altenhöner.

Mr Altenhöner is in reality Lieut. Col. Klaus Altenhöner, an army instructor in his mid-40s who runs hand-to-hand combat courses. Nick Peter's 80,000 predecessors to take the plunge from the tower were paratroopers, some of whom have been trained by the Colonel.

But this weekend, Lieut. Col. Altenhöner is a private citizen running the society's course — although you wouldn't think so from the horrid way he talked to Nick: "Dr Peters, grit your teeth and jump! Well, what are you waiting for, Herr Doktor? Don't be lily livered! Jump! Nothing can happen to you! Don't think about it! Just jump!"

"I can't," Nick Peters replied quietly. "Yes you can!" yelled the lieutenant, and clapped his hands twice. "80,000 have

done it ahead of you and the refusals are one in a million." But Peters at this moment was not impressed with statistics. "Then I'm the one in a million," he obstinately cried. He hesitated another three seconds — then sprang.

When all course members had run (or, in this case, jumped) the gauntlet, there was more to come. They were all blindfolded and taken by jeep to an unknown point. Their task was, using compass and map, to find their way 25 kilometres to another given point where, without technical help, they were to build a shelter. Neither hitch-hiking nor use of main roads was allowed.

The marchers set off through the night in teams of two. It began to rain. They helped each other over barbed wire farm fences, staggered through mud, fought with exhaustion — and broke the rules.

It was nearly two in the morning when Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm manager Ingbert Bastian and his companion heard the distant sounds of music. Oh, what bliss, what blessed relief.

"C'mon, me old sunshine," said Bastian. "We're going to go and sink a pint or two. There ain't no innovation without flexibility, my boy."

The followed the music and discovered a party taking place in a beer tent.

Christian Geyer
(Die Welt, Bonn, 4 August 1987)

No slip ups, please.
(Photo: G. Geyer)

Not many people have heard of Wuhan. Even fewer have heard of Werner Gerich, who comes from near Karlsruhe. There is a connection between the two.

Wuhan is a Chinese city with four million people about 300 miles west of Shanghai which is a heavy industry centre. Gerich is a 67-year-old engineer, an honorary citizen of the city. He is also general director of a diesel-motor works there.

His honorary citizenship is in recognition not only of the man himself, but for the whole idea of the Senior Expert Service (SES), an organisation which uses retired Germans with usable skills to pass on their knowhow in Third World countries.

It has its headquarters in Bonn. It offers specialists from industry, commerce and administration. Pensioners who aren't content messing around in their back gardens, who are also fit and enterprising, are sent to many parts of the world by SES.

Especially popular are German advisers in various countries who help up breweries. One has been set up in Western Samoa.

In four years, SES has spread its activities to 60 countries. Most of the operations are in Africa but there is more involvement in China than in any other single country.

And in Wuhan, Herr Gerich is not alone. SES people have formed a minor German colony there.

Average, SES people spend two months on a project. Sometimes it is only two or three weeks. But it also could be six months or more. The service gladly uses married couples.

The Bärenflingers worked for half a year in Sierra Leone. Frau Bärenfänger arranged the administration of the local hospital while her husband busied himself with the construction of a new hospital building.

The supply of workers is greater than the demand and so many applicants complain about the long waiting time.

Nordsieck says that sooner or later everyone gets a chance. He qualified the point: "Anyway, the odds are greater than in the lottery."

It depends a lot on trade: a master butcher had an excellent chance of finding a job in Africa and demonstrating the skills of making sausages.

Jürgen Tuchel
(Nürtinger Nachrichten, 18 July 1987)



Werner Gerich at work.
(Photo: Private)



No slip ups, please.
(Photo: G. Geyer)

■ SOCIETY

100,000 down and out in Munich, says report

Mannheimer MORGEN

More than 100,000 people in Munich are living on the breadline, says a study commissioned by the city.

The study, New Poor in Munich, says 83,471 (6.5 per cent of the city's population of 1.3 million) live in poverty below the breadline. To them should be added 16,000 of the 40,000 unemployed who don't qualify for benefits plus foreigners with restricted residential permits.

The survey was carried out by Rolf Romanus' research institute, which has researched various issues already for the city such as Munich's homeless, runaway young people and traffic planning. Romanus claims that "new poverty" in Germany has never before been looked at so extensively.

The category deals with people on supplementary benefit only dealt with "controlled poverty."

The Munich study indicates causes, the structure and tendencies of this new poverty and draws vital social consequences.

It is estimated that there are about 50,000 eligible for supplementary benefit, including estimates of unrecorded cases. The figure has increased over the past five years by 22 per cent. The gross expenditure increased by DM71m.

The greatest growth is among single parent families (that account for 18 per

cent of all the people in their care) and families with children (22 per cent).

Old people only account for 16 per cent of the people cared for by ASD.

The social workers say the main cause for this new poverty is the unemployment of one or more members of a family, often related to inadequate unemployment benefits and cutbacks in social assistance.

Against this there are rising expenditures for increasing or high rents and debts that are incurred in an attempt to solve problems.

The third group among those likely to fall into poverty is a peculiarity of Munich, the same problem that other cities affected by the steel crisis have.

Munich has the highest rents in the country, with 4.1 per cent of all households supported by rent rebates. Two-thirds of the 31,576 receiving rent rebates live below the poverty line.

In the future it can be assumed there will be a further increase in the number relying on supplementary benefit, since the proportion of the "problem group" of long-term unemployed is increasing.

There are also indications that adolescents and young adults are increasingly in need of supplementary benefits, people who are preparing for a career with "the poor elderly."

The writers said that supplementary benefit only deals with "controlled poverty."

They took into account the "poverty potential" of the clients of the Allgemeiner Sozialdienst (ASD) and the recipients of rent rebates, about 13,000 to 14,000 in each case.

Living costs are often more expensive than elsewhere. There have been cutbacks in new council house building and there has been an increase in expensive accommodation through modernisation and the change to home-ownership, which adds to the difficulties.

Karl Stankiewitz
(Mannheimer Morgen, 9 July 1987)

Pros and cons of marriage behind bars

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

There are particular difficulties for people who marry with one of the partners either in prison or remand prison.

A study has tried to investigate how those concerned handle the situation, how they arrange a marriage behind bars and what chances of such marriages lasting.

Fairly different motives were found between the sexes that led them to make such marriages.

Men enter into them mainly because they promise advantages in the penal system. Women who are not in jail marry a man who is mainly to "save" him. The most usual reason they give is that they want to care for and help the man.

Professor Reinhard Wille, head of Kiel University's sexual research institute, has examined 34 of the approximately 80 marriages concluded between 1972 and 1980 in Schleswig-Holstein between partners one of whom was in a penal institution at the time of the marriage.

In two-thirds of the cases the partners knew each other before one of them was imprisoned. In a few cases an "intimate relationship" of one kind or another already existed between them.

Of the remaining eleven couples six got to know each other in prison itself.

Only three of these couples were met during parole, a possibility introduced in the Federal Republic in 1977. For the majority of the others the relationship was built up by letters and visits, and they married within a year of the first contact.

As the *Medical Tribune* reported it shows that the strengthening and maintenance of such a relationship, particularly when one of the partners has a long sentence to serve or life, is very difficult, particularly as parole generally in such cases is refused.

Granting leave of absence, apart from discharge from prison of course, is the only opportunity of having marital sex.

Officially sex between married couples in prison is forbidden in the Federal Republic. According to Wille, it is only rarely tolerated unofficially.

Nevertheless 90 per cent of the men questioned and 70 per cent of the women stated that they were satisfied with this aspect of their married life.

Wille found that there was disappointment about the therapeutic effects of marriages in prison.

Seventy per cent of the men relapsed after their release from prison. Of the five women who were married in prison two relapsed.

This is not surprising in view of the difficulties such marriages have to deal with.

It appears that the 15 couples whose marriage had not lasted longer than a year, still described the relationship as being intact.

Almost just as many, 14, were described by the husbands and wives as having failed and five believed their marriages to be endangered.

Renate I. Mreschar
(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 25 July 1987)

WORLD AFFAIRS

Central America agrees to take its destiny in its own hands

The Central American heads of state have signed a peace plan in Guatemala City. The Nicaraguan government will be bound under the deal to liberalise its regime and hold free elections. But the Nicaraguans say that the deal depends on America ending aid to the contras.

Before the summit in Guatemala City, hopes were not high that an agreement would be reached. Both diplomats and foreign correspondents were pessimistic that anything concrete would be decided.

So the news that the presidents of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua had agreed to the plan presented by Costa Rica's Oscar Arias came as a surprise.

The formal signing ceremony showed that regional leaders had decided to take their destinies into their own hands and no longer allow solutions against their own interests to be imposed upon them.

Guatemalan host Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo could hardly have put the point more clearly than in his final address. "We want to be the leading actors in our own history," he said. Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega later made a similar point.

Such comments testify to more than self-assurance. They are also a rejection of attempts by the superpowers to transform a restless region into a stage for their rivalries.

His initial reaction made it clear that President Reagan does not like the peace plan.

Continued from page 1

Basic Law in connection with the Persian Gulf.

As earlier crises in the Middle East and environs, the Bonn government hopes to gain time by referring to constitutional constraints.

As a diversionary move it has embarked on a spate of activity at the United Nations in New York where, as luck would have it, the Federal Republic is not only a member of the Security Council again but has, since July, chaired it.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has made use of this instrument in his usual bustling manner.

Bonn has been able to convey the impression that it helped pave the way for UN Security Council Resolution No. 598 calling, in rare unanimity, on Iran and Iraq to cease hostilities.

This has better enabled it to withstand US pressure to make a military contribution toward coping with the Gulf crisis.

Bonn's diversionary strategy has, in particular, included the argument that someone must maintain a bridge to the internationally outlawed regime of Ayatollah Khomeini.

The Federal Republic — or so this argument goes — has undertaken a difficult international assignment in upholding Iran's interests for the sake of a peace settlement.

This somewhat exaggeratedly disinterested pose proved a double-edged strategy:

Washington was as well aware as London or Paris that Bonn was keen to

In his speech on the Iriugate scandal he reaffirmed the well-known viewpoint that his administration would continue to do all it could to prevent the establishment of a Soviet bridgehead in Central America.

The Reagan administration does not seem prepared to see the world's hot-spots, be they the Middle East or civil wars in America's "back yard," other than in terms of the East-West conflict.

What is more, Cerezo Arevalo's proud slogan "We want to be the leading actors in our own history" has been understood throughout Latin America.

Mr Reagan is convinced that all evil in the region can be traced via Nicaragua to its Cuban backers who, in their turn, are mere Soviet puppets.

So his aim has been to isolate Nicaragua and show the Sandinists with their Marxist terminology to be an alien body in America.

The Arias Plan thwarts President Reagan's concept. The five Central American leaders who met in Guatemala agreed to set aside ideology and make a pragmatic attempt to solve a conflict.

The Arias Plan forces two countries in particular to nail their colours to the mast sooner or later. They are the United States and Nicaragua.

President Reagan was understandably unenthusiastic about having a fait accompli foisted on him by the five Presidents from America's back yard.

Yet even though he clearly dislikes the plan he cannot simply ignore it. To begin with, there is a sound foreign policy argument for taking it seriously...

If the US government route rough-shod over regional views, it would be in trouble with the Contadora states of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela.

NÜRNBERGER Nachrichten

uella, all of which endorse the Guatamala Agreement and are envisaged as playing a leading role in putting it into effect.

What is more, Cerezo Arevalo's proud slogan "We want to be the leading actors in our own history" has been understood throughout Latin America.

Heads of state of the subcontinent are prepared a summit conference at which this idea is likely to be taken up, with special reference to the debt crisis with which the South is saddled.

Sovereign debts paralyse economic development and pose a greater threat to democracy than Marxist guerrillas. To reject the Arias Plan outright would be to snub Latin America, and that President Reagan cannot afford to do.

The second reason is domestic in character. It is a matter of relations between the President and Congress after Iriugate. Aid to the anti-Sandinist rebels as approved by the US Congress expires at the end of September.

At the moment there are no signs that President Reagan can expect to enlist majority support for an application to approve further aid. It is hardly the right time for moves of this kind.

In October the commission of enquiry will be publishing its findings on Iriugate. They are unlikely to create an atmosphere favourable to aid for the Contras.

The UN and the Gulf war

look after substantial commercial interests still retained in Iran.

Besides, this pro-Iranian approach was bound to lead to the clash with Iraq that promptly came to the fore when Herr Genscher publicly stated that it had started the Gulf War.

At high speed the German Foreign Minister had to rush to Paris to pacify his Iraqi opposite number, since when he has been felt to have outbid this particular hand. Herr Genscher certainly now seldom mentions Iran or Iraq.

Bonn's role at the UN has begun to show signs of wear and tear too, and now Britain and France have decided to reinforce their naval units in the Gulf with minesweepers. The Federal Republic has come under heavier pressure to make a military contribution too.

Bonn is unlikely for long to be able to withstand this pressure, especially as the Federal government has constantly stressed how well it understands the US desire to share the burden.

Pressure might only be eased if the situation in the Gulf takes a turn for the better soon. But there are no signs of imminent improvement. So Bonn is unlikely to be able to avoid having to show the flag.

After the symbolic moves undertaken by Britain and France, the Federal Republic is less likely than ever to summon the courage to remind the Reagan administration how problematic muscle-flexing in the Gulf is.

Bonn is currently considering whether

Bundesmarine ships might be seen for a while from their normal duties and sent to reinforce the US fleet in the Mediterranean or to patrol the North Atlantic.

That is probably what will happen, as a pacifier to President Reagan, even though the military value of any such move is virtually zero.

But the Federal government could then at least say it had shown itself once more to be a reliable US ally and not refused to demonstrate solidarity when called upon to do so.

Bonn government officials may well count themselves lucky to get off so lightly now the Dutch and Italians have decided to make a gesture to the White House too.

Italy has proposed setting up a multinational minesweeping fleet for the Gulf under the auspices of the Western European Union (WEU).

There can be no denying the risk that Bonn's present policy, aimed at playing for time and diversionary tactics rather than marshalling arguments against US policy in the Gulf, cannot be upheld for much longer.

If the Gulf crisis continues and is, say, heightened, the Federal government may find itself paying a higher price than it had imagined in return for the constitutional constraints that rule out a direct German role in the region.

The policy of muddling through while taking care not to criticise the Americans could rebound on Bonn.

Nicaragua will have to make it where it stands too. President Ortega clearly understood that the Arias Plan might well be the Sandinists' last opportunity of extricating themselves from loss of face from the cul-de-sac into which they have manoeuvred themselves.

The agreement can be presented as an initiative drawn up by the region itself and thus as a proposal more keeping with the interests of local people than solutions thought up in Washington or elsewhere.

Now is the time to see whether the Nicaraguan regime is capable of conducting a dialogue with the Opposition, whether an ear can bear contradiction and criticism is whether dogmatic Marxist views or pragmatic outlook will prevail.

Along with his colleagues President Ortega undertook verifiable measures, such as the restoration of civil rights and Press freedom, lifting of a state of emergency and the release of political prisoners.

These are the touchstones that will show the Sandinists' mettle. They will soon show whether they see the Arias Plan as no more than a means of surviving the last 17 months of the Reagan administration or are prepared to play a serious part in the peace process.

President Arias may take a sceptical view of the outlook for a democratic evolution of Nicaragua, but he does say that Sandinists show signs of a "new desire for peace."

War and militarisation will not solve the region's real problems, which are poverty, malnutrition, social injustice and a lack of education and of democratic structures.

This is a point that has been forgotten. One American capital when last seen has been forgotten is Washington where the Kissinger Commission is pointing clearly enough. The Arias Plan is an opportunity to reconsider.

Wolfgang Schäuble
(Nürnberger Nachrichten, 15 August)

HOME AFFAIRS

The turbulent life and times of Franz Josef Strauss



Come all ye faithful... Strauss at party congress.
(Photo: Sven Simon)

emotional attacks on his opponents. He follows with more detailed interviews and explanations which are usually submerged in superficial media treatment.

The result is that Strauss becomes embittered about what is said about him. In the row over Chile, for example, he has been accused among other things of defending dictatorship, torture, exploitation, and violations of human rights.

His concern about the future of what he has built up in over 40 years of post-war German politics is by no means unjustified.

Above all, two decisive misjudgements by the CSU chairman himself stand to jeopardise what Strauss regards as his lifework and the legacy of the founder fathers of the CDU and CSU.

The first is his anti-communism and the associated missionary belief that his task is to save the Christian West from the Bolshevik domination of the world. The second is his extreme fear of disloyalty and conspiracy.

Strauss has never been too keen on defining exactly what Christian means in the field of politics, generally opting for non-committal and vague statements.

Nevertheless, it is fair to claim that he supports the extensive integration and solidarity of all forces whose common Wehrhaftung is the rejection of communism.

Strauss was and is deeply convinced that, irrespective of all tactical or forced changes in the Eastern bloc, the ideological commitment of communism to world revolution and the underlying Russian imperialism still exist.

His unshakeable belief that communism is the greatest of all evils led to the decisive flaw in his line of reasoning, namely that all lesser evils can be tolerated providing they help prevent or stirring up public emotions and hitting out at political opponents.

In contrast to Helmut Kohl, who never misses an opportunity to emphasise that he is one of the political "grandchildren" of the Federal Republic's first chancellor, Konrad Adenauer (CDU), Strauss has his own style when it comes to stirring up public emotions and hitting out at political opponents.

This view of politics meant that Strauss repeatedly overlooked actual Christian (and democratic) principles in the broader contexts of his geopolitical concept.

In order to save the Christian West from the Antichrist he believed that Christian principles could be dispensed with in certain situations.

In order to safeguard western democracies and "the free world" (which Strauss equates with the non-communist world) against communist totalitarianism he believed that democratic principles could be temporarily neglected.

It would be wrong to claim that Franz Josef Strauss supports the undemocratic exercise of power, political persecution and torture, racism and social injustice.

Despite occasional shifts of emphasis by the CDU and CSU Strauss is convinced that the most important political task of both parties since the days of Adenauer has been the integration of the democratic right wing, i.e. the pooling of Christian, conservative and other anti-communist forces to counterbalance the far-right.

Strauss must share the blame for being frequently misinterpreted as a misunderstood genius of German politics.

As in the latest exchange of blows with Bonn Labour Minister, Norbert Blüm, and CDU business manager, Heiner Geissler, Strauss generally begins by publicly letting off steam through apparently superficial and

that, as long as the geopolitical bulwark — stretching from Chile via the Philippines to South Korea — is strong, efforts to persuade these countries (and allies) to gradually reduce internal hardships and return to a democratic system would stand a better chance of success.

What Strauss failed or was unwilling to appreciate was that the longer and more brutally a dictatorship rules, and the less Christian and western-democratic forces contribute towards its overthrow, the more likely that country is to fall prey to communism.

Strauss, however, became more and more set on his role as the saviour of the Christian West, all the more so as no Bonn government since the one led by Kurt Georg Kiesinger (CDU) has advocated this stance.

Strauss feels that certain sections of the SPD at least are susceptible to communist feints.

In his opinion the FDP is disunited, naive, opportunistic and mainly interested in how to survive.

This would isolate Strauss and put the CSU in a right-wing corner without the party being able to capitalise on this fact outside Bavaria. In addition, Strauss is apparently becoming more and more aware of the internal weakness of the CSU.

Like many exceptional figures with a definite nose for power Strauss, who never quite made it to the top, has done everything during the past few decades to make sure that political personalities who are all too powerful have not been able to challenge his leadership.

Admittedly, in his representation of German interests he has never lost sight of realities and never acted as irresponsibly as suggested in many a pre-election speech.

As a result, some right-wing extremists felt fooled and taken for a ride by the election promises made by Strauss.

Strauss is aware of this, which explains his fears that a political party

with parliamentary representation to the right of the CSU might soak up the votes of disappointed nationalists.

Despite occasional shifts of emphasis by the CDU and CSU Strauss is convinced that the most important political task of both parties since the days of Adenauer has been the integration of the democratic right wing, i.e. the pooling of Christian, conservative and other anti-communist forces to counterbalance the far-right.

Strauss may not like the way in which the FDP is already emphasising that his days in active politics are numbered.

He also knows, however, that the CDU is also eagerly counting how many days are left too, albeit not so loudly.

Jürgen Kramer

(Deutsche Allgemeine Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 23 August 1987)

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■ THE LAW

German expert consulted as Soviet Union thinks about changes to penal code

Martin Fineke, professor of criminal, criminal procedure and East Bloc law at the University of Passau, in Bavaria, is spending five months in the Soviet Union as part of an exchange programme financed by the German Research Society. He is examining the changes in Soviet criminal law triggered by *perestroika* (reconstruction) and *glasnost* (openness). In this article for *Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt*, Hans-Joachim Decker looks at these planned law changes and the work of Professor Fineke.

Lawyers at the famous Institute of State Affairs and Law in Moscow are hoping to take a major step towards humanising Soviet criminal law.

There are plans to introduce a legal stipulation on diminished responsibility. At present a defendant is either regarded as not responsible for his actions or fully responsible, regardless of the circumstances.

Lawyers feel that this is both inhuman and unrealistic.

The representative of the Serbski Institute of Psychiatry, however, whom the law institute had invited as an advisory expert, declared that his branch of science was not in a position to decide whether responsibility in terms of criminal law was permanently or temporarily diminished.

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RECHTSSEITER MERKUR

their efforts by an unexpected Politburo decision in January. By the end of the summer holidays, they were told, draft amendments are to be elaborated for both the criminal code and the code of criminal procedure.

Jurists were even more enthusiastic in view of the fact that the political leaders refrained from specifying any content-related conditions for their work.

On the other hand, it is clear that the intention is a new codification rather than a mere updating. *Perestroika* is also planned for the legal system.

Gorbachov's principle of "new thinking" has to contrast with the first phase of liberalisation. The operative word is humanisation.

There is general agreement that a further move away from the tradition of draconian punishment is needed.

In his opinion, the political leaders in the Soviet Union have failed to heed the

Continued on page 8

Reformers are hoping for a "decriminalisation" in major areas of life.

If they have their way, for example, failure to report a criminal offence will no longer be a punishable offence.

And if a criminal offender is hidden away by his wife this should no longer be punishable (aiding and abetting delinquents).

In the field of criminal law relating to young offenders there are plans to reduce the number of offences and restrict criminal prosecution to serious offences only for offenders aged between fourteen and sixteen.

However, despite substantial progress the death penalty will be retained.

If legal experts manage to push through their views against the pan and the KGB the death penalty will still be imposed for treason and homicide.

Execution on the grounds of corruption or other business crimes such as currency smuggling, a form of punishment practised up until very recently, is to be made impossible in future.

There are also plans to ensure that women and men over sixty do not have to face the firing squad.

Barbaric

Any process of humanisation should also include the prison system, which has a particularly barbaric reputation.

However, a new law in this field is not planned.

There is every indication that serving a prison sentence in the Soviet Union is at least twice as hard as doing time in the more modern prisons in the West.

Serving a ten-year maximum penitentiary in a Soviet prison or a forced labour camp really does mean the end of the road for those convicted.

Any move towards a more humane prison system, assuming that a political will to do so exists, would probably founder due to financing problems.

There are more urgent investments in Gorbachov's programme.

What is more, the attitude of the Soviet people in general towards criminals is far from being humane.

Fundamentally stable, he added, the system has been renewed and supplemented in order to "correspond to the new demands of a forward-looking society".

There is no need, Sheynin wrote in 1981, for radical changes.

The scientific community at least does not share this opinion today.

The jurists in Moscow, who have already been working on a reform concept for two years, were encouraged in

According to some legal experts, banishment — a form of punishment with a deeply-rooted tradition — should be abolished altogether.

The new form of punishment envisaged in the programme is called "restriction of freedom".

In practice this would mean a compulsory contract of employment.

The firm employing the person in question would then assume responsibility for that person's "reformation".

Firms already have the task of "educating" employees with suspended prison sentences, an idea which is totally unacceptable to western legal and social concepts.

Nonetheless, Professor Fineke feels that considerable progress has been made.

This explains why he is all the more disappointed at the fact that the attempt to introduce greater legal certainty via the reform must be regarded as having failed.

In his opinion, the political leaders in the Soviet Union have failed to heed the

Continued on page 8

■ PERSPECTIVE

Death of Hess, Hitler's most obedient servant

Rudolf Hess, who was sentenced to life imprisonment at the Nuremberg war crimes trials in 1945, has died in Berlin aged 93. Hans Werner Kettenbach looks at the Hess years for *Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger*.

Alexandria, Egypt, where his father was a self-employed businessman.

His father was a typical German of his day: strict, hard-working and had a strong sense of honour. At home, his son later said, he struck terror into his family's heart.

In 1908 Rudolf was sent to a Protestant boarding school in Bad Godesberg. He was not allowed to study mathematics and science, as his teachers advised; his father insisted on him learning a commercial trade. He returned to Alexandria and went into his father's business.

Hess, 47, was Reich Minister and the Führer's deputy. His aim was to talk with the Duke of Hamilton, an influential RAF officer, and submit a peace plan.

"He was successful, but no one can say with certainty if the mission was Hesse's own idea or whether it was on Hitler's orders.

Hess issued an official statement saying his deputy was mentally deranged ("The entire manner of his behaviour confirms the fact that he had been suffering from delusions").

Yet a peace treaty with Britain would have suited Hitler's strategic purpose fine. Ten days earlier he had decided to invade the Soviet Union on 22 June.

That meant waging a risky war on two fronts for as long as there was no outcome in the West.

There have been doubts expressed both about the motive and the identity of the man who made the parachute jump over Dungavel, the Duke of Hambillon's country estate.

Hugh Thomas, a British military doctor who examined "Prisoner No. 7" at Spandau in 1973, found no traces of the bullet that penetrated Hess's lung in 1917.

Thomas put further facts together in support of a fantastic theory. His idea was that Himmler, the SS leader, planned to oust Hitler.

As commander of a student corps he took part in Hitler's November 1923 putsch, storming the Bürgerbräukeller and the Rathaus and taking hostages.

When the putsch failed he fled to Austria but returned on learning that Hitler had been sentenced to prison. He was tried, sentenced and served his prison sentence alongside Hitler in Landsberg jail.

Hess was imprisoned, given psychiatric treatment and tried by the Allies at the first Nuremberg tribunal in 1945.

He was the only one of 22 Nazi leaders tried at Nuremberg to be found innocent of charges of war crimes or crimes against humanity.

But he was sentenced to life imprisonment for conspiracy and crimes against peace.

Was his sentence unfair? Was he an idealist who meant well but fell foul of the victors' revenge?

Or was a sick man sentenced, a man who was neither legally nor morally to blame for the offences of which he was accused?

Hess's life story would seem to indicate that an entirely different conclusion is warranted. He was a typical, by no means unusual representative of the clique that triggered the worst war ever waged and had millions of deaths on its conscience.

Demolition is the only way of preventing it from becoming a monument. There are still people who refuse to learn the lessons of history.

The first reactions by hard-line Nazis after Hess's death emphasise the importance of such places for neo Nazis.

Hitler dictated his "Mein Kampf" to Hess while they were in jail. Hess was more than a secretary; he also contributed ideas of his own.

The idea of "Lebenstraum," or living space, needed by the German people in the East, where they would have to conquer the inferior races who now lived there, is closely related to the geopolitics taught by Hess's university teacher Haushofer.

Otto Strasser, one of Hitler's earliest associates, had this to say about the Landsberg duo:

"Hess is entirely devoted to him. Hitler need have no fear of Hess objecting to any of the historical inaccuracies of which he is guilty, let alone the least criticism of the exaggerated monologues to which Hitler is prone."

Joseph Goebbels, later Reich Propaganda Minister, wrote in 1926 about Hitler and his closest associates:

"Hess: the most decent, quiet, friendly, shrewd, his private secretary."

is the Führer. That is because everyone feels and knows he was always right and always will be right."

That same year Hess told political leaders and commanders of the Hitler Youth and the Reichsarbeitsdienst:

"The more you obey orders right down to the smallest detail, turning right or left as the Führer commands, the more automatically you march in step, the more readily the Führer can lay the groundwork for putting the National Socialist programme into practice."

On 1 September 1939 Hitler told the Reichstag that German troops were now returning Polish fire:

"I have now redonned the uniform that was always my most prized and sacrosanct possession. I shall not take it off again until we win — or I shall die before we do so!"

If anything were to happen to him he appointed Reich Marshal Göring his successor, to be followed by his former private secretary, Rudolf Hess.

Was Hess a fool, an insignificant, minor figure and an unfairly punished, sick man? Prisoner No. 7 in his day wholeheartedly endorsed the ideology of crime and if he suffered from madness, then it was the madness from which the Nazis as a whole suffered.

He believed in the supremacy of a preordained nation, in despising other people, other political ideas, in brutally pursuing a policy of might is right, in the fixed idea that a war could be just and that violence could lead to a new and better world.

This kind of madness he retained until his dying day. His biographer Wulf Schwanwitz quotes a guard at Spandau as saying Hess had told him he still stood by his final submission at Nuremberg:

"I am proud to have served under the greatest son Germany has sired in its 1,000-year history. I regret nothing. If I were to be back at the beginning I would do just the same."

A group headed by his son campaigned in vain for his release. Were they right in demanding his release? Over 40 years in jail must surely at some stage no longer make sense.

It can no longer serve the purpose of justice; it is bound to become sheer brutality. The wartime Allies, who now threaten each other with war, would have done well to let Hess die in freedom at 93.

But those who complain of the rigour of his punishment must not seek to set aside his guilt or the ruthless way in which the Nazis persecuted people by the million.

Hans Werner Kettenbach
(*Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger*, Cologne,
18 August 1987)



The Führer was always right ... Rudolf Hess.
(Photo: dpa)

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Hans Werner Kettenbach
(*Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger*, Cologne,
18 August 1987)

■ FINANCE

Germans step up investment in America

DIE WELT
UNTERSTÜTZUNG FÜR DIE DEUTSCHE INDUSTRIE

The low dollar exchange rate and protectionist threats have accelerated German plans to step up commercial involvement in the United States.

Increasing investment is one way of getting around trade barriers. One example is Bosch, which has been in America for 80 years. It is increasing manufacturing capacity and reducing its dependence on (getting dear) imports from Europe.

Its investment in America in all sectors is up 40 per cent this year compared with last.

In mechanical engineering, West Germany's largest industrial sector, the policy means consolidation.

The emphasis on the American market began in the era of a strong American dollar. Now German firms are beginning to build up their service organisations.

It is likely that they will also go in for component manufacture or assembly in the US to deal with the competition in the long-term. The most attractive solution is to take over an existing company.

Bosch, the Stuttgart-based group, is to move DM1.7bn into America between 1988 and 1990.

The most important Bosch project in the USA, scheduled to be tackled this year, is the extension of series production of anti-blocking systems at the works in Charleston and Anderson in South Carolina.

By expanding manufacturing in the US, where Bosch employs about 3,400, it will cut its dependence on imports from Europe.

Voith, the machinery and plant manufacturing group based in Heidenheim, has developed a forward-looking strategy which involves extending capacities in the US, where it employs 1,000.

Nine months ago Voith took over Alis Chalmers Hydro Inc of York that has a turnover of \$80 million dollars a year and employs almost 600.

The German organisation will produce hydro-turbines and pump turbines in the US under the name Voith Hydro Inc.

Voith has been represented in America for some time by subsidiaries Voith Inc and Voith-Morden Inc of Appleton, involved in the manufacture of paper machinery and fabrics technology.

Trumpf Group of Ditzingen, tool manufacturers, are also planning to expand its subsidiary's capacities. The US company at present employs 170. The aim is to limit dependence on supplies from the Federal Republic, currently about 40 per cent.

Heinz Wüstefeld, chairman of Winterhalden AG, is also keen to invest, although there is not a lot of room for manoeuvre for his company to exploit the present favourable situation.

Long-term strategy is now always concerned in boosting interests in the important North American market.

Pressing in Hanover say that the dollar exchange rate very much influences immediate decisions.

Helmut Werner, chairman of Conti, and Mark Wössner of Berkelmann, do not conceal the fact that the current dollar exchange rate is very favourable for investment.

Mannesmann, Thyssen and Henkel maintain that they are not under any pressure from current American legislative intentions or exchange rate developments.

Nevertheless Mannesmann and Thyssen are taking advantage of the low exchange rate for investments already planned.

At the beginning of 1988 Thyssen will put into operation a pressing factory in Kentucky. The operation represents an investment of DM100m.

Henkel is not worried about protectionist dangers because it produces in 20 locations in the US. Over the past few years the company has continuously expanded its position as a leading supplier of specialised chemicals by introducing a number of new products and developing old ones further.

In the course of this year Henkel has acquired Oxy Process Chemicals and Partner Chemicals, and become involved in the joint venture Hengel-Hercules.

In addition Henkel has acquired over 25 per cent in two other companies, Loctite Corp (adhesives) with a turnover of 26.7m dollars, and Clorox Company (detergents) with sales of 1.1bn dollars. Henkel's share is to be increased to 30 per cent.

Henkel has a 50 per cent holding in the Aquilon Group (producing among other things thickening agents for dyes).

The chemicals industry's strategy is not really related to current developments. For a long time the three major companies and most of the medium-

Continued on page 7

Mushrooming Mercedes-Benz heads the big league

Daimler-Benz had a turnover of about 65.5 billion marks last year, which makes it the biggest firm in Germany.

Only the state-run Bundespost and Bundesbahn set aside more money for investment than the Stuttgart group.

It employs 320,000 people, which makes it the third largest employer in the country, behind only the Bundespost and the Munich electro-engineering giant, Siemens. Daimler-Benz paid 3.4 billion in earnings-related tax last year.

Its turnover surpassed both Volkswagen's and Siemens' in 1985 when it took over AEG, the third largest electronic and engineering group in Germany.

Daimler's place at the top of West Germany's 100 most powerful companies seems assured. It is in the midst of changing its organisation to take account of its ever-wider involvement in a high-tech age.

In a top-management shake-up, Ewald Reuter in September takes over from Werner Breitschwerdt as chief executive. Breitschwerdt is stepping down before the end of his contract. There had been a lot of criticism that his methods of leadership were not suited to the company's more diversified role.

After having taken over MTU, the engine manufacturers, the aviation company Dornier and AEG, Daimler-Benz is now involved in discussions about the future of Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm (MBB) of Munich.

MBB, 52 per cent of whose equity is owned by the federal states of Bavaria, Hamburg and Bremen, has been enthusiastically looking for a partner in the private sector.

The dark horse in the race has been the car maker Ford. The company has risen from 22nd to 14th on the top-100 list and is no longer in the red. Grundig has also done the same thing. And this against a trend towards lower turnovers, some more than 10 per cent.

Companies in the energy and oil sector have been the ones in the main to show drops in turnover, because they are particularly affected by the fall in oil prices.

This has not influenced profitability usually, because sales have remained the same, but at lower prices.

Chemicals multinationals have been hit not only by the low dollar exchange rate and crude prices, but they complain that there has been a loss of confidence

since Sandoz, Basle, polluted the Rhine. Nevertheless, they are as ever well, among the profitable companies.

There have been differing developments in the computer industry. Siemens has had to vacate top place, as not only because Daimler-Benz has come stronger by acquisitions.

Siemens has recorded a drop in the over of 14 per cent, very much affected by results in the nuclear energy sector.

According to statements from nuclear power stations turnover has been knocked to the tune of billions, but has not shown up in the Siemens annual report.

IBM's subsidiary in the Federal Republic has been caught in a similar manner. Turnover has dropped nine per cent.

The star of the computer industry: the present is computer manufacturer Nixdorf. The company is now listed at the 52nd place, in the middle of the list.

It has had an increase of turnover of 15 per cent, one of the few companies that has achieved growth without having made acquisitions.

The mechanical engineering sector very export-oriented and as a consequence affected to a considerable extent by dollar exchange movements, has come through relatively well.

In some companies there has been a drop in business volume, but despite unfavourable dollar exchange rate they have shown increases in profits.

West Germany's mechanical engineering sector was, in 1986, ninth one on international markets.

The total value of exports was reported to be almost DM1bn, almost a quarter of the total mechanical engineering exports from western industrial countries.

The jobs situation differed from company to company, but most companies last year recorded a drop in their workforce.

The only increases were recorded companies that had taken over other companies such as Daimler-Benz and Rheinmetall.

The ten largest companies, with the exception of Volkswagen and Siemens did not employ any more people, to any noticeable degree, than in the previous year.

Otherwise there was relative industrial peace in the list of the 100 largest industrial undertakings in the Federal Republic.

Things are about to change. Lagerfeld and textiles billionaire Steilmann have signed a contract to produce a Lager-

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 7 August 1987)

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■ BUSINESS

An unlikely combination gets together in the rag trade

DIE WELT
UNTERSTÜZUNG FÜR DIE DEUTSCHE INDUSTRIE

feld collection of women's fashions that will be made by Steilmann in Germany.

In itself there is nothing particularly surprising about that. Lagerfeld has lived for the past 30 years in Paris. He is bringing to the deal not only a feel for fashion but a lot of business acumen that he acquired in North Germany, where he was born. If the two are seen with each other it is obvious that never before were two more opposite men brought together.

Lagerfeld is at home in the world of art and artists, castles and country residences. He has recently changed a penthouse in Monaco for a villa.

But the two are business partners: they have signed a deal under which Steilmann will make a Lagerfeld collection of women's clothing.

Textiles manufacturer Klaus Steilmann owns factories in Wattenscheid. He drinks beer and spends his leisure hours following the fortunes of Wattenscheid FC, buried in the Bundesliga's second division.

But the two are business partners: they have signed a deal under which Steilmann will make a Lagerfeld collection of women's clothing.

The fact is that the differences between the two men are deceptive. Both have in common a nose for fashion and business.

When a silver-grey Mercedes slid up almost silently to the 1950s Wattenscheid factory building one day this month, workers gathered at the windows.

There was a sense of excitement in the air when the car door opened. Two men got out, Steilmann and Lagerfeld.

Steilmann, in a dark-blue suit with a light-blue shirt, obviously felt at home. But everyone's attention was on the other man: Lagerfeld.

His hair was smooth, brushed-back, and he wore dark glasses. Everyone waited expectantly for him to turn his head and confirm what they already knew. He did indeed have a little pigtail, à la Mozart, at the back of his head.

There was some guessing at the value of his clothes, his brown satin waistcoat, his brown sports jacket and his trousers. So that's the man from Paris who is going to do business with our boss.

Canteen lady Else Stratmann then said what many thought: "Honestly, I like our boss better." She is small and plump and married to a butcher.

Lagerfeld from Paris looked just like a fashion designer conceived by Molière. He is the famous German whom most Germans only knew of through the clothes he created.

His father's firm in Hamburg produces canned milk under the name Glückskleeblatt. (The luck of the cloverleaf) and it could be said that it has brought Lagerfeld himself luck with a feel for fashion.

His father's firm in Hamburg produces canned milk under the name Glückskleeblatt. (The luck of the cloverleaf) and it could be said that it has brought Lagerfeld himself luck with a feel for fashion.

It is not surprising then that Lagerfeld, the spoiled darling of the fashion world, wrinkled up his nose when he visited the Steilmann headquarters in Wattenscheid for the first time.

The headquarters lie directly beside the Hamburg-Dortmund-Düsseldorf rail-line. Intercity trains regularly shake the building and rattle the football thimbles in the glass-cases.

Only at the beginning of this year did Steilmann provide DM350,000 to put up a sound-proof wall. The trains rattling by had all too often interrupted telephone calls to the USA. That was too expensive for Steilmann who counts the cost of everything.

Rooms are being cleared in the headquarters building. Walls are being painted and desks put aside. Then Lagerfeld will have his own office in Wattenscheid.

So as to minimise the difference between working in Paris and Wattenscheid, facade of the building facing the railway line is to be painted.

Ruth Will
(Die Welt, Bonn, 13 August 1987)



Champagne . . . Karl Lagerfeld.
(Photo: dpa)



Beer . . . Klaus Steilmann.
(Photo: Private)

shop near Essen. He had a start-up capital of DM40,000, a sum that to this day is regarded as magical in the Steilmann organisation.

Last year the whole Steilmann Group had a turnover of a billion marks, marketing coats, clothes, costumes, blouses and skirts, trousers, children's and men's ready-made wear, but DM40,000 is not given out easily for fashion photographs, briefing trips or new office furniture.

The only decorations in the Steilmann headquarters in Wattenscheid are a few green plants and countless football pictures, certificates and glass-cases full of cups and trophies. At first glance it looks like the central office of a football association rather than of a fashion company.

Steilmann's office on the first floor does not include either a busy secretary barring the way or mysterious closed doors, emphasising first impressions. Here there are also football pictures, cups and solid furniture.

He is president of Wattenscheid 09, which plays in the second division of the Bundesliga. He also sponsors it.

He became closely involved with soccer after having a heart attack at the age of 34. Now he plays in the veterans' team every Wednesday and afterwards plays skat (a card game).

Steilmann, who never spends less than 10 hours at the works, says: "I don't need parties and going to music festivals in Bayreuth. I love my work. It fills my life. Anyway I prefer beer to champagne."

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■ THE MOTOR INDUSTRY

Another rotary engine spins into action

DIE WELT
DEUTSCHE TÄGIGE VAKSINERUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

The inventor of the rotary engine, Felix Wankel, 85, has come up with a new version which is to be tested next year by Mercedes.

It is a 1,000cc model that is claimed to develop an incredible 2,000 horse power.

The original Wankel has virtually been virtually written in Europe because of its luck of durability, high fuel consumption and high exhaust emission.

After the oil shock in the 1970s, fuel economy became much more important than technical brilliance and construction of the Wankel engine was abandoned in West Germany.

Twenty-seven of the 28 firms that had contracted to manufacture rotary engines under licence (they included Rolls Royce and General Motors) abandoned the idea. Mazda alone stuck to its guns.

Today, 10 years later, Mazda is still developing and improving the engine in conjunction with Wankel.

Chief executive Kenichi Yamamoto and development director Takahashi Kuroda have steadily improved the design, boosting performance and cutting fuel consumption of what was unquestionably a gas guzzler.

Nearly two million sports cars with

whispering rotary piston engines have run off Mazda assembly lines. Three- and four-cylinder engines have been put through their paces.

A three-cylinder rotary-engined Mazda not only lasted the distance at Le Mans but came seventh in the gruelling classic.

Mazda is still convinced that rotary engines run more smoothly than conventional pistons.

"The rotary engine has fundamental advantages," says Yamamoto. "It is much lighter and smaller than a conventional piston engine. It generates high power and runs with low vibration."

"We have reduced to a minimum the disadvantages, such as its high fuel consumption and emission."

This move soon proved to have been a shrewd deal. Wankel and his staff had a (non-turbo) mechanical loader in the pipeline that will boost the performance of medium-range engines and earn a fortune.

"It's a strikingly simple idea," says Daimler-Benz development director Rudolf Hörning, "and, as trials show, a most effective one."

The device, which boosts the intake of air for combustion, is to be made by Kühne, Kopp & Kausch (KKK) of Frankenthal, the largest manufacturer of turbo loaders in Europe.

KKK is a Daimler-Benz group company.

Next year the new Wankel engine is to be tested in a Mercedes. If it passes its test it will be a hit but none the less welcome vindication of "long-term thinker" Wankel, who was long upset at appearing to have been written off by German industry.

Daimler-Benz director Werner Niefer, in charge of the Mercedes car division, is convinced the new Wankel engine has a great future; he greatly regrets discontinuation of the Mercedes C111 Wankel in the 1970s.

Many experts have wondered why Wankel, who is back at work (from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.) after eight weeks at a health resort, repeatedly comes up with brilliantly simple solutions that entire teams of development engineers fail to hit upon.

Hörning feels the "specific way in which he consistently approaches problems and seeks solutions" is why. His conversations with Wankel would give any technician genuine pleasure. The grand old man of Lake Constance is not a man who "stands to attention when a Daimler-Benz director calls; he is a tried and trusted partner who is well aware of his worth."

Yet Wankel the technical revolutionary dismisses his brilliant ideas as though they were a matter of course. "If a German engineer takes a few soup cans with him into the jungle he can be sure to emerge with a locomotive."

This dry, droll approach was very much part of his outlook in 1930 when he first had the idea of designing a rotary piston. Unemployed at the time, he wrote in his diary:

"Lay in bed, reading about the Hohenstaufens, thinking about technical problems from time to time. According to Professor Fincke, the authors of the draft version of this law are deeply disappointed. In their eyes, the law on state enterprises is a disgrace".

"Suddenly struck me that centrifugal force could be offset without friction or bearing strain by rolling the mass within a ring. Read on about the Hohenstaufens."

Heinz Horrmann
(Die Welt, Bonn, 6 August 1987)

The disc-shaped piston rotates eccentrically round the outer axle (see photo), eliminating centrifugal force on the bearings and making up to 40,000 rpm possible.

Conventional engines reach the end of their tether at well under 10,000 rpm. Easily, quietly and smoothly, the new-look Wankel engine, a prototype of which has been found to whisper like a turbine, is said to develop 2,000 horsepower from 1,000cc.

Power from 1,000cc.

■ EXHIBITIONS

Life and death and the brilliance that was Egypt

Hannoversche Allgemeine

An exhibition called "Egypt's rise to a world power," has brought together what time had separated: a sculptured bust of King Thotmes III dating from the 15th century BC.

At some time, somewhere, the bust was broken and the parts became separated. But eventually the face turned up in Cairo and the rest in New York.

Now, for the first time the work of an artist from 3,500 years ago can be admired as a single entity, just as it was when it was first created.

This is a highpoint of the Hildesheim exhibition — but not the only one. Fragments from Boston, Paris, Amsterdam and Luxor have also been put together to recreate a portrait of Thotmes' son, Amenophis II.

The exhibition deals with the conquerors of the 18th Dynasty in the New Kingdom, the period when Egypt rose to become a world power.

It is made up of more than 300 items from collections in Cairo, Paris, New York, East Berlin, Leiden, Leipzig and other places. It gives a picture of a society in change, going off in new directions, a period that was to be one of the most brilliant epochs in Egyptian history.

If mention is made of the highest cultures of mankind one thinks mainly of Mesopotamia and Egypt. But there are indications that all good things come in threes.

Excavations have been carried on since 1922 in Pakistan, the country of origin of the Indus civilisation. What has been uncovered since then shows that in the earlier settlements there was a high degree of culture.

The people of the north-west corner of the Indian sub-continent were "urbanised" 4,300 years ago, for they had created a well-organised urban life.

An exhibition made up of 400 items has now been collected of these "forgotten cities of the Indus" that is on display in Aachen's Town Hall. The exhibition is under the patronage of Unesco. The items have never before been seen outside Pakistan.

This mysterious culture, that sank without a trace about 2,000 years before Christ, was exemplified by two towns. Harappa, lying on the Riva, a tributary of the Indus. Harappa was the first location to be explored and gave the culture its name.

Mohenjo-Daro, on the lower reaches of the Indus, has been brought to public attention by the considerable efforts made by Unesco to save the ruins from destruction by salty groundwater.

There are now over 1,000 locations known, spread out over an area of a million square kilometres — from the Himalayas to the Arabian Sea, from the frontiers of the present Iran to Delhi.

The most recent French excavations in Mehrgahr have revealed that the beginnings of cultural development in the Indus valley stretch back to the 8th century before Christ.

This early period is represented in the exhibition by castings of neolithic

In the space of less than 100 years Egypt increased its territory fivefold, reaching the Euphrates in the north and stretching deep into Nubia in the south.

The ancient civil service grew powerful to challenge the military and the beginnings of the priesthood of Amun-Re were established. This priesthood rocked the Kingdom and its position as a world power in the period of the Heretic Kings in the 14th century.

Egypt's rise to power came from a period of deep humiliation. About 1650 Before Christ the Hyksos spread from Asia and overrun Lower Egypt, making the king of Upper Egypt their vassal.

There is considerable dispute over the ethnic origins of this tribe.

Their rule lasted 100 years until King Ahmes (1542 to 1517) succeeded in freeing the land.

The Egyptians learned a great deal from these foreigners who introduced to the Nile the horse and cart.

From this period on war chariots were the nucleus of the Egyptian army and a self-confident officer corps carried the fame of the Pharaoh afar.

In Syria the Egyptians came into conflict with the Mitanni Kingdom. After getting embroiled in various battles the Egyptians, under King Hatshepsut (1479 to 1458), suffered setbacks but the situation was saved by his son, Thotmes III.

This is roughly the background against which the Hildesheim exhibition is set.

Life is given to this period not just by listing external events but by taking into consideration internal conditions in the state, its social groups, its aims and values.

Although the exhibition deals with the splendour of the pharaohs the lower orders and their daily life are not entirely ignored, despite the general lack of source material. Life at the bottom. At the top the king.

The exhibition depicts life from Ahmes to Thotmes IV (1402 to 1392). This includes the period when the civil service in the 18th Dynasty noticeably began to change compared with the previous period.

Hereditary office was withdrawn, replaced by a personal relationship to the king, frequently won by accompanying him in his wars.

In competition with the king for power was the priesthood of the kingdom's god Amun-Re in Thebes. The priesthood's wealth was growing all the time, which gave the priests a material basis for their political power which no king could ignore.

Thotmes learned this later when he tried to introduce his theological reformation.

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In competition with the king for power was the priesthood of the kingdom's god Amun-Re in Thebes. The priesthood's wealth was growing all the time, which gave the priests a material basis for their political power which no king could ignore.

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■ EDUCATION

Little goodwill evident as university battles to ban a blind student

A blind woman who wants to study has become involved in a running battle with her university, which maintains that she would not be able to complete her course "appropriately" because of her handicap. The student, Gitta Herrmann, 24, was given special dispensation three years ago to study dietetics at Hohenheim University, Stuttgart. She passed all her exams in the first year but, at the request of some of the teaching staff, her continued attendance was made impossible by a process called "rustication." This invalidated everything she had done. Last year, a court ruled that the university had not only acted illegally but had also "totally disregarded" Frau Herrmann's interests. The court ruling has not ended her problems, however. The university's case is that she cannot complete certain practical aspects of the course. Now Cornell University, in the United States says that blindness would not stop her doing a course there. Frau Herrmann would attend Cornell if she could raise the cash. Cornelia Girndt looks behind the scenes of this unusual human-interest story for the *Frankfurter Rundschau*.

Gitta Herrmann, 24, was advised by influential members of the university staff to switch to a course geared more towards domestic science. But, at the same time, they made it impossible for her to do so.

Her rustication, despite the fact that she had failed no exams, automatically invalidated all courses she had taken; it was as though she had never been to the university.

The Stuttgart administrative court upheld her appeal against rustication, yet she is still persona non grata. The university authorities are not even prepared to consider allowing her to attain a partial qualification.

Good will is conspicuous by its absence. The way in which a number of university teachers, in conjunction with the legal advisers to Hohenheim University, have rid themselves of the problem of a blind woman student stands in sharp contrast to official policy.

Last year the Standing Conference of West German University Vice-Chancellors issued recommendations on Improvements in the Situation of Handicapped Students and Would-Be Students at University.

Universities are advised to lend handicapped students assistance with specific work facilities and by a suitable revision of examination regulations.

Gitta Herrmann wasn't interested in studying law, psychology, sociology or education. All are established courses of study for blind students, but none interested her.

She wants to qualify in dietetics because, she says, she finds the subject tremendously interesting and hopes, after qualifying, to find work in the medical sector.

She lost her sight at 11, went to Marburg college for the blind for a few years, then transferred to the Mannheim Waldorf School — "because I wanted to work together with the sighted."

At the Waldorf School, where she passed her Abitur, or university entrance exam, she realised that she was opposed to educational segregation.

So she ruled out any idea she might

have had of studying education — with the emphasis on teaching the handicapped.

She is a resolute young woman who goes around on her own, relying solely on her white stick, to see to her own business. "Otherwise," she says, "the authorities ignore me and talk only with my guide."

That is why she decided — and is still determined — to break new ground by studying dietetics.

In her application to study the course she outlined in detail how she planned to set about her studies.

She would rely on the assistance of a conscientious objector doing social work rather than military service in carrying out and describing her practical chemistry experiments.

Instead of written tests she would have to take oral exams, and she was well aware that practical courses in chemistry and pharmacology were not going to be easy in what was a predominantly scientific course of study.

But, she argues: "I am blind and a woman. If I am to stand any chance of finding a job in the clinical sector I must have ideal training and qualifications.

"And the Hohenheim course is the only one in the German-speaking world that is precisely what I need."

This stubborn awareness of the need for qualification and "temperament that overshoots the mark in her determination to achieve her ambition," as one Hohenheim prof puts it, are what irritated and provoked her university teachers.

Junior lecturers in the department of dietetics at Hohenheim do not seem to have any qualms on this point.

At the beginning of her second semester Frau Herrmann arranged for the assistance of a social worker (and medie) whose salary was paid by a Protestant Church welfare organisation in Stuttgart.

In practical zoology the social worker just stood around feeling forced because the tutors and junior staff plied Frau Herrmann with material to "see" for herself — with her hands.

They now refer to her as though she had never been a fully registered and recognised student. "Well, you know, there was a slight discrepancy there," says the university's legal adviser Eva Rieger-Pelzel.

She refers to Frau Herrmann as "the lady who, for Heaven's sake, cannot possibly study here."

Yet doubts on this score only arose after Gitta Herrmann consulted a number of staff members at the beginning of her second semester.

They then had misgivings as to how she could possibly make a success of her

Frankfurter Rundschau

course of study, as the university administration now puts it.

No mention is made of specific grounds for these alleged misgivings. Frau Herrmann has not failed a single exam since she took up residence in a bachelor apartment in Filderstadt in her first semester.

The court ruling, reached at the end of 1986, was a slap in the face for the university. It found her rustication to have been illegal and invalid.

In an unusually detailed judgment the Stuttgart administrative court found that the examination committee and university administration had made not the slightest attempt to take the plaintiff's personal study interests into account.

They totally disregarded her interests in retroactively nullifying her course grades by declaring her immatriculation to have been invalid.

A measure of such a decisive nature would not even have been warranted if there seemed to be any likelihood — a



Not wanted at Stuttgart but would be accepted in America ... student Gitta Herrmann.

(Photo: Guido Hölde/Orten)

point on which the court refuses to be further drawn — of her being unable to be complete the course for health reasons.

She could, when all was said and done, gain a partial qualification. And the court referred to the finding of surveys it commissioned that Frau Herrmann would at least seem able to make further progress in the basic course of study.

Besides, she had already taken on board in her first semester.

Even though they and the university's administrative officers had been severely reprimanded in the court ruling the registration papers Gitta Herrmann was sent for the 1987 summer semester were accompanied by what could, at the very least, be described as a discouraging letter.

She was told that the university was not prepared to be of any assistance in arranging for oral exams and that the professors who objected to allowing her to take part in practical courses could not be obliged to do so by the court ruling.

The lecturer in charge of practical physics also laid on a physics student to arrange and explain the experiments.

Frau Herrmann arranged with her professor to be given an oral test after every third lecture.

But Hohenheim University staff are not all hardliners. "She ought to have realised she couldn't complete the course," Professor Wolfgang Haubold now says.

He adds on a quieter note that: "Personally I would have preferred her to find out for herself rather than have resorted to legal means of dealing with the problem."

Professor Hans-Jürgen Holtmeier thought things over and changed his mind. He no longer feels a blind student could not possibly take part in and pass his practical course in dietetics.

Professor Holtmeier, a Freiburg specialist in internal medicine, has mainly changed his mind on account of laboratory conditions and facilities.

So many jobs have been used, he says, that "Frau Herrmann would in no way be disadvantaged by not taking part in our negligible training course using antiquated equipment."

This is the conclusion he has now reached in an expertise for the court.

After she had been thrown out, Frau Herrmann took a practical course at the Frankfurt children's tumour centre, then attended US universities where blind students have already qualified.

She could study dietetics — and would love to do so — at Cornell University, New York, funds permitting.

Her disability is certainly no handicap, the US university says. She is either capable of fulfilling the course requirements or not. Period.

Cornelia Girndt

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 16 July 1987)

Fresh cell therapy has been banned by the Federal Health Office, Berlin. Four deaths in swift succession triggered the move against a treatment that has been controversial for decades.

Embryonal fresh cell therapy, also known as Niehans therapy, involves injections of cells taken from freshly slaughtered animals. Periodic injections are claimed to restore vitality and cure all manner of ills.

After detailed consideration of the benefits and risks the Berlin agency has imposed a temporary ban on the sale of fresh cell serum until June 1988, by when a final decision is to be reached on whether the decision was warranted.

A total of 235 dry cell preparations supplied by four manufacturers are affected by the ban.

Dry cells are shock-frozen fresh cells of animal origin. They are thawed before being injected and claimed to give patients fresh vitality and cure all manner of maladies.

Fresh cells in the proper sense of the term are taken from freshly-slaughtered animals or foetuses and injected immediately. The ban does not include them because they aren't strictly speaking medicinal drugs, from which it follows that the Federal Health Office is not responsible for them.

Health authorities in the *Länder* have intervened where fresh cells are concerned, however.

In Baden-Württemberg fresh cell therapy has been prohibited. In Hamburg a ban has been imposed on manufacturing and importing fresh cell material.

In the Rhineland-Palatinate, Bavaria and Lower Saxony Niehans therapy is permitted solely on the understanding that patients have been warned on the

Continued from page 10

The impression of authenticity is astonishing and the intention is the same.

Lascaux and the Caves of Altamira with their Stone Age rock art have been endangered by mass tourism and have had to be closed. The same is also true of many of Egypt's antiquities.

Eggrobrecht wonders if admission should only be allowed to copies of these treasures. This is a proposal worthy of consideration, although there is a touch of Disneyland to the suggestion.

On the one hand the life of the ruling classes is reflected. On the other the labouring population, the farmers and bricklayers, who were looked down upon, despised and regarded with abhorrence by the civil service.

The kings appear in these portrayals as ideal types, realism is exaggerated. Workers are portrayed at work, unshaved and with unkempt hair.

Beside the aesthetic marvels in the exhibition there are examples of the tools of everyday life such as mortars, blades, spatulas, moulds, brickmoulds and pickaxes.

Life and its continuation into the afterlife is the second aspect of this exhibition. The Egyptians did not regard life and death as contrary to one another but rather as a great unity. In this respect Hildesheim museum director Arne Eggebrecht has added another highlight to this exhibition which is something of a pioneer for future exhibitions of this type.

In the basement under the exhibition rooms the visitor is introduced to the burial chamber of Sennefer, mayor of Thebes, the "Grave with the vine leaves" reproduced with exact attention to detail.

Sennefer's tone to his subordinate, reminding him of his official obligation, is tart to say the least.

It has been reproduced with the aid of special a photographic process which was tested in Hildesheim in 1982 with an exhibition of the Caves of Lascaux.

MEDICINE

Controversial fresh-cell rejuvenation treatment banned pending more tests

Risks and then agreed in writing to injections being given.

The other *Länder* can be expected to follow suit. In West Berlin fresh cell therapy has been prohibited since last year.

The Federal Health Office's decision was long overdue. The four deaths were not the only recent shadow to be cast on the controversial rejuvenation technique.

In 1955 a survey at 180 clinics revealed 80 cases of complications and 30 deaths after fresh cell injections.

Death did not always immediately follow the injection as, for instance, a result of uncontrolled allergic responses. The patients frequently died later of complaints affecting various organs.

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eration. In accordance with the homoeopathic principle formulated by Samuel Hahnemann, today's "miracle cure" medicines claim that *similia similitus curantur*, or "likes are cured by likes."

They began to argue that cells taken from the hearts of unborn sheep could rejuvenate the hearts of elderly patients, while kidney cells were claimed to cure kidney complaints and testicle cells were said to stimulate virility.

Cell therapy has lately been recommended to treat such widely differing complaints as overexposure to radioactive contamination, degenerative complaints of the joints, asthma and chronic constipation.

Supporters of cell therapy were apparently unperturbed that setbacks and fatalities occurred.

In point of fact the injection of alien cells is tantamount to an organ transplant and triggers what can be violent immune responses.

In Professor Niehans' time violinist Georg Kulenkampff died of a virus infection at the age of 50 after a course of fresh cell treatment.

This case was particularly macabre when viewed in the light of a comment by Professor Niehans, who once said:

"I turn down nine out of 10 patients who consult me. I select for treatment those who are of value to the world."

Other fresh cell patients died after heart attacks or allergic shocks in the wake of immune responses.

As injected cells can transmit animal diseases and be to blame for virus infections such as the visna maedi virus and the scrapie germ, there is a considerable risk.

Over and above

■ SPORT

An athlete-turned-yachtsman who cheated death

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Tahiti, Tonga, Samoa, Fiji. The names that idyllic dreams are made of.

But for Walter and Lucia Adams, they are reality. They are ports of call in their trip round the world by sail.

Walter Adams used to be a top-class athlete, an 800-metre specialist who failed to win a medal at the 1968 Mexican Olympics by a mere half second.

Two years later in an international meeting in Stuttgart against the United States, he ran the 800 metres in 1 min 44.9 sec, at that time the fastest time ever by a European. It is time that even today, 17 years later, would keep him up with the fastest.

He was one of Germany's Four Musketeers, together with fellow middle-distance runners Harald Norpoth, Bodo Lümmel and Franz-Josef Kemper.

He made the change to a non-running career without problems, which is more than can be said for many athletes. Walter Adams didn't even need the aid of the big sports equipment manufacturers.

He got himself there. He became one of the most successful photographic designers in the country and the big illustrated magazines were full of advertisements he had designed. Everything was going right for him.

Then it was discovered that he had cancer. That was at the end of 1973, and his chances of survival were considered to be slender.

He had several operations, and he had to undergo radiation treatment more than 100 times. He wasn't even 30 years of age. But Adams was made of sterner stuff. He ran the best race of his life and outran death.

The illness must have had a strong influence on his decision to sail round the world, but a more direct influence was a Christmas present given him in 1980.

It was a book in which a Frenchman, Bernard Moitessier, described how, after sailing round the world in a single-handed race, he arrived outside the English port of Plymouth and then turned round and sailed back out to sea. Walter Adams became fascinated with the idea of sailing round the world.

Dr Hans-Peter Sturm, president of Adams' local athletic club and a Stuttgart chief of police, said: "Walter Adams was always a perfectionist."

That's why Adams made his plans and stuck to them. He did a first-aid course, another on how motors work, learned some tips from a dentist about how to carry out small repairs. He bought an 8.6-ton, 10-metre yacht with a three-metre beam in Holland for 300,000 marks, took it home and worked on it for seven months and named it St Lucia, after his wife.

Then, one day, everything was ready. Adams produced his plans publicly. He had just bought a house with a sauna, whirlpool and a library in it. He held a house-warming party and dramatically announced that the house had been sold again.

both feel excellent." The most notable event so far had been a week-long visit with the local people on an island off the coast of Venezuela.

Now they were looking for somewhere where they could sit it out during some expected hurricanes.

Probably in the Fiji islands but possibly also in New Zealand.

The question remained open if the couple would return to Germany. Dannecker said: "Nothing more precise can be said. Perhaps they will be here again in two years."

Hans-Peter Sturm, on the other hand, considered that the Adams couple would not return to "the bourgeois life".

Yet perhaps the couple will just before the end of their world trip, turn around. Just like Bernard Moitessier did.

*Roland Eitel
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 10 August 1987)*



*Life's too short to get angry...
Berend Beilken.
(Photo: Nils Habermann)*

Veteran skipper sees sailing as a metaphor for life itself

West Germany finished fifth in this year's Admiral Cup yachting competition, the unofficial world championship of the high seas sailed off the south coast of England and the Irish Sea. The first destination was Martinique, 2,700 nautical miles to the south west.

On Christmas Eve, they put up a plastic Christmas tree and opened a bottle of Trolling wine and ate a Schwabian pasta-and-meat dish called Maultaschen. And potato salad. It took 19 and a half days for the Atlantic crossing. On board with them were three cats.

Adams wrote in a letter: "Columbus must have been green with envy." The letters were the most important contact with home.

He wrote to Anita Gamm in Kornwestheim. She photocopied them and distributed them to friends — another example of organisation.

They reached Martinique and in Guadeloupe, their diet changed. Maultaschen were not exactly stocked in every corner shop.

But there were bananas — 100 of them for five marks. In Dominica, 30 grapefruits cost three marks. And mangoes lay on the streets.

Fish cost nothing. In Venezuela, they waited for a hurricane to blow itself out before going through the Panama Canal and out into the Pacific.

If the wind and the clouds are simply there, taken-for-granted accessories to the vagaries of the sea itself, they take on a new, hard significance when a boy becomes a yachtsman and starts to learn to read the signs and develop a feel for a craft and its environment.

And so it was for the young Beilken. In his more serene moments, his blood

circulates in time with the currents; then he has everything, the skies, the earth and the wind and the water. He is a part of the integral whole.

He has sailed the Pacific and Indian oceans, through the seas around Bermuda where the notorious triangle is said to claim its victims. And he has cruised up and down the North Sea.

He has just finished taking part in a familiar event, the Admiral's Cup, as the skipper of Diva, one of three German ocean-going yachts taking part off the south coast of England and the Irish Sea.

German yachts have won this world championship of the high seas three times. Three times Beilken has been involved, in 1973 and 1985 as a skipper and in 1983 as trainer and coordinator.

He sailed in his first regatta at the age of five on Vegesack harbour. At 17 he sailed on Germania, a yacht belonging to the Krupp family, in a race from Buenos Aires to Rio de Janeiro.

The Krups were customers of Beilken senior who had a sail-making workshop that he had inherited from grandfather Beilken. Berend followed the tradition. "When my parents asked me what I wanted to do, I had to say sailmaker."

He and his elder brother, Hans, took over the business. Berend later decided not to make sails any more and left the firm to branch out on his own.

Beilken Brothers sails are known wherever yachts are sailed. The business kept on growing, and as it grew it left less and less time for sailing. Berend decided one day that he wanted to sail, not work seven days a week.

In 1968, Hans and Berend Beilken became the first Germans to win the world one-ton championship — their win, off the New Zealand coast, was in a yacht called Optimist.

Berend says a sailor needs to be resourceful because so much can happen: the mast or rudder can break, or the vessel can spring a leak.

You can almost extrapolate an entire philosophy from his sailing attitudes. Life as an exercise in improvisation in relating to the laws of nature on top of a surface which carries man along but which also can destroy him.

Men can at times almost fly, but he can also drown. "No one can actually conquer the sea. You have to understand it and unite with it," says Berend.

He became self-employed seven

years ago. His firm's premises are sober and functional. There is a drawing board and a video set for film demonstrations.

Over Berend's head is a model of a transparent roof section made of a synthetic material used to make roofs for covered walkways or pedestrianised streets.

The state has assured the citizens of Schweinfurt that nothing like that could happen. Central government has recommended in its contingency planning that should a catastrophe occur, an area within a radius of ten kilometres should be evacuated.

But the state of Bavaria has reduced this to five kilometres.

Bonengel said: "That left us in the clear." The handful of Schweinfurt citizens, who lived in what was left of the danger zone by the stroke of a pen by the Munich authorities, would have to be able to get out of the area on foot — for example to the pub three streets away.

No-one in the Town Hall believes that a catastrophe would be contained within the limits set by government officials using a pair of compasses and a ruler. So the civic authorities themselves are making preparations to evacuate the whole city.

Central government's city planners pretend that they would have 24 hours from the moment the alarm was given until the security measures on the reactor had been breached.

They have organised the city into evacuation districts, assigned roads for casualties and reception areas. They have distributed information, including maps, dealing with their plans by house-to-house circulars.

Officials in the Town Hall have calculated that it would take 17 hours to evacuate the city including its 30,000 commuters.

This could only happen if citizens have faith in the administration and follow instructions. Officials believe that the prerequisites for this were knocked on the head at the latest in the spring of 1986.

Those who have not died are cordoned off in the city of the dead. The rest of the country is in chaos.

Bonengel said: "After the confused information about Chernobyl citizens no longer automatically believe officials."

He no longer believes that there would be an orderly evacuation in 17 hours but "a wild, chaotic flight."

This would happen no matter how emphatically broadcasts stated that there was no acute danger and that the evacuation was only precautionary.

Bonengel said that "people's subjective reactions had been neglected." As a result of this verdict Town Hall officials have been looking for a solution that "takes into consideration people's likely chaotic behaviour and that works," said Bonengel.

Those of the city's 50,000 people who have not died are cordoned off in the city of the dead. The rest of the country is in chaos.

Just after the book was published the *Schweinfurter Tagblatt* wrote in February this year: "This is obligatory reading for all citizens of Schweinfurt. We can no longer say that we did not know."

The reviewer was Werner Bonengel, the city's security officer responsible for the safety of the city's population if "The Cloud" really should come.

Bonengel said that others would quickly follow the first person to disregard street barriers. "That would upset everything."

The main problem is that roads must be kept free from fleeing people so that buses and aid vehicles can get into the city. But who would observe road restrictions under such conditions?

Mayor Petzold said that others would

follow the first person to disregard street barriers. "That would upset everything."

At least 600 bus trips would be necessary. The telephone numbers of bus operators are included in the catastrophe plan.

Mayor Petzold knows, however, that "People would also listen to the radio and know what was happening in Schweinfurt. No-one would willingly travel into the city under those conditions."

Legal compulsions urging people to do their duty would be of little avail.

Petzold is demanding that "transport

really be made available." The state

must station buses in the city and com-

mandeer riot police or Frontier Police officers to drive them.

That would be expensive but, Petzold

said: "If a nuclear power station costs

■ HORIZONS

Just imagine a cloud, a big radioactive one . . .

DIE ZEIT

■

Horizons

■